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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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RAYS OF LIGHT

SHED ON EVENTS IN LABOR AND POLITICAL MOVEMENTS.

Leopoldism an Ulcer Upon the Face of the Earth—A Suggestion to Senator Rayner—A. M. Simons Staggering in His Own Vomit—S. P. Fright Lets Out Some Truths.

The issue of the pending campaign in Great Britain has called forth the following expressions on the part of the "Edinburgh Socialist" and the London "Justice."

The "Edinburg Socialist" says: "The Lords have decided to try a fall with the petty bourgeoisie, a momentous decision—for the Lords. For although the Lords and a large section of the bourgeoisie intend to wrestle 'in fun' in the mock struggle that is about to be entered upon, there is sufficient at stake to make it 'half fun—real earnest.' Although the bourgeoisie are only in fun about the abolition of the House of Lords, they are in deadly earnest about the Budget, and in the fight, passions will be aroused and things said and done that may lead to graver issues than the Lords or even the bourgeoisie intend."

And "Justice" closes an editorial by Fred Knee in these words: "Down with the House of Lords! Up with the people! Up with a House really to represent the Commons—the Common People. Let us have real democracy."

The issue will soon show.

The death of King Leopold of Belgium comes as a timely event to tone down the enthusiasm of those who love to contrast "ancient meanness" with "modern morality," and to orate self-complacently upon "the great progress we have made in civilization." Leopold was an ulcer upon the face of the earth. Nasty in his personal life, he was a center from which corruption radiated; insatiable after wealth to satisfy his impure tastes, not only did his own Belgian working class suffer cruel exploitation, but he extended the field of his rapine to the Congo where he made the natives acquainted with the rod of scorpions that he wielded. And yet this hideous monster was tolerated by Europe upon a throne, and now that, at last, he has relieved the earth from his encumbrance, the press of the International Ruling Class mourns around his bier as though a Saint had departed. It is doubtful whether the Darkest Ages can parallel the spectacle. We have progressed—aye—but not in morality or wisdom—we have progressed in the possibility to render Leopoldism impossible. To render the possibility actual is the task of Socialism.

"Staggering in Its own Vomit" would be the biblical expression that should have served for title to the editorial entitled "Socialists and a Labor Party" in the Chicago "Daily Socialist" of December 14. In that same issue in which it is editorially admitted that the "performances of the Socialist party have been bad," hence the party has not attracted the workingman,—in that same issue the Gompers false pretences of organizing the steel workers against the Steel Trust are echoed with a front page and sensational four-decker article. Every man who is posted knows that where Gompers gets his hand in there the workers are delivered, tied hand and foot, to the capitalist. The echoing of the "Labor-leader's" false pretences does not bring the "Labor-leader" over to the echoer: its effect is to cause the Labor-leader to expect the echoer to come over to him, with the further consequence that the echoer draws upon himself the merited disgust of the rank and file—vide the S. P.

Senator Rayner of Maryland has started the war-ball against Nicaragua rolling in the Senate. He calls Zelaya a "highwayman, tyrant, usurper, assassin and arch-criminal." Now that the Senator has been so industrious in turning the light upon Zelaya he should kindly turn the light upon the strings, obedient to the pullings of which he has spoken. Mayhap the discovery would be made of the whole trouble being one of swine rending swine.

The torrential volcano of incoherent words that goes under the collective name of "Emma Goldman" spouted at Lyric Hall the theory that "as long as there are class distinctions people are going to vote in the interest of the class with which they are identified." Hence, what's to be done? Use bullets? Bullets have no more intelligence than ballots. If as long as there are class distinctions people are going to vote in the interest of the class with which they are identified, then as long as there are class distinctions people are going to shoot in the interest of the class with which they are identified. The final upshot would be that things can not be changed, and we would have an eternal class-society with "Emma Goldmans" as the phosphorescence above the quagmire.

The identical "Call," which, in one issue and in big type, announces Messrs. Mitchell and Hillquit as mediators in favor of the Waist Strikers, reproduces in another issue, December 15, a lambasting of Mitchell by Berger making the just and serious charge against Mitchell that he is a highly paid hired man of the Civic Federation, "that is of the employers, and then still claims to represent the working class."

Is this an instance of the fatality that pursues S. P. double-dealing?—Itself publishes the facts to put the judicious on their guard by lockstepping their own peerless Hillquit with the Civic Federation's hired man Mitchell.

Or is this an illustration of the habitual shamelessness of S. P. betrayal of the workers?—While it puts forward its supposed revolutionist Hillquit it couples a Mitchell to him as a hint to the employers that they may feel safe?

Of this more anon.

Even the New York "Sun" is moved to laughter at the voluntariness of the payment of $695,000 to the U. S. Treasury by the Sugar Trust magnate Arbuckle. Even the "Sun" suspects that these moneys are in the nature of "hush money" to prevent a Congressional inquiry. Even the "Sun" hints that the whole transaction is extremely fishy.

A veritable Pentecostal fire of truthfulness, of cat-out-of-the-bag-lettingness, seems to have broken out in the camp of the Socialist party. No sooner is A. M. Simons' letter out admitting the truth, oft asserted and proven by the Socialist Labor Party, that the S. P. is "a hissing and a by-word with the actual wage workers of America," when now comes "The Call" of the 12th of this month with the admission that, while the American workers are "showing a sad lack of solidarity" in their financial contributions, a very fair amount of the financial support which the paper has received comes "from organizations whose members, for the most part, can not read English"—in other words, those who understand it don't want it; those who want it don't understand it.

Even the holder of a capitalist political job may be entitled to sympathy if the job is one that may wear him out to a bone. Such is the nature of the jobs that a bill, which is to be presented to the next Legislature of this State, will create. The bill proposes to create a "Board of Legal Discipline." The duty of the said Board will be to cleanse the New York bar of practitioners who indulge in practices rather than practice. A Hercules might clean an Augean stable, but mere humans could hardly do the job without collapsing.

A Chicago friend has favored this office with a copy of the latest privately-owned journalistic venture in the Socialist party camp—"The Provoker," a weekly, "published by Thomas J. Morgan, Socialist, 79 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill.; price 1 year 25c., 6 months, 15c., 3 months, 10c."

In point of appearance, "The Provoker" carries on its forehead an imprint of the identical Typographical Union label which, a few years ago, ornamented the injunctions, issued against the compositors on strike, and nailed all over Chicago on billboards and trucks. In point of size "The Provoker" is not exactly voluminous. It has 8 pages, but these are only 4½ inches long by 2½ wide; and it folds up neatly like the time-table of a suburban side-line from a trunk railroad.

This notwithstanding, let none rush rashly to the conclusion that "The Provoker" is a lightweight. It is as full of matter as an egg is of meat—tart, spicy, juicy matter concerning the internal affairs of the now rapidly decomposing S. P.—the absurd make-up, the graft that corrodes it, in short, its Simonism, which I-I-I-Morganism wishes to abolish by supplanting, and the whole rounded up with a neat advertisement of Mr. M.'s law offices.

None should miss the paper. Those who can afford to, should buy it. All others can see and enjoy it in this office.

Sphinx Gaynor!

Addressing the Democratic spellbinders of the late election at Shanley's on the night of the 15th, the Mayor-elect said:

"I hope the day will come in this country when our elections and selections of men for public office shall be such that not a word will be said about honesty, that it will be a matter of course."

Did the Mayor-elect's words contemplate the day when economic independence will be assured to all? Only then could elections and selections leave out the issue of honesty. There being no material forces bending men to dishonesty, issues will be leftier than they are now.

Or did the Mayor-elect's words contemplate the day, very much strained after by his class, when a property qualification will bar the masses from the hustings, leaving only the rich qualified to select and be selected? If that is what his words meant then the Mayor-elect is a visionary. Under class rule dishonesty is an indelible issue. In the words of Jefferson: "I have not observed men's honesty to increase with their riches."

Let not the statement of a prominent business man to Mme. Yvette Guilbert, that politeness is a weakness, be too lightly laughed to scorn, or too heavily condemned. Politeness is a sort of a trimming of the claws of civilized man. In civilized society claws are not needed, and should be trimmed. But in the jungle, where claws are one's sword and buckler, he who has them not is speedily forced under. What is the statement of the business man, above quoted, but a confession that society to-day is a jungle, and that he who has not claws, and sharp ones, perishes? Abolish the system, then man can be truly polite.

Western capitalist papers—the Salt Lake City "Goodwin's Weekly," the Wallace, Ida., "Press," the Wilbur, Wash., "Register," the Moskow, Ida., "Star-Mirror" among others—are quick to see their opportunity, and to seize it. The circumstance that the name of I. W. W. is being usurped by a set of men and women who practice sluggery, who repudiate the ballot, who urge theft as a revolutionary weapon, and whose conduct is now throwing discredit upon free speech, together with the further circumstance that the Socialist party lawyers and "intellectuals" of Spokane are, naturally enough, making common cause with that I-am-a-bum element,—these circumstances are being greedily seized by those bourgeois organs as proof that the I. W. W. and Socialism are elements of rapine, rowdyism and indecency. Those western bourgeois papers do not seem to realize that their greediness to seize upon the conduct of impostors to throw disrepute upon Socialism and upon the I. W. W. is proof positive of the intellectual bankruptcy of bourgeoisdom, and of the invincible solidity of the I. W. W. and the S. L. P.

S. L. P.-MEN EVERYWHERE

An anonymous correspondent to the New Yorker "Volkszeitung," the German daily organ of the Socialist party in this city, writes from Lincoln, Neb., in that paper's issue of the 17th of this month that things are bad with the S. P. in Lincoln. He tells of a Local of the S. P. having once flourished there with 48 members, but having since vanished; and he accounts for the vanishing by the activity of Socialist Labor Party men and their press, both of whom "circulated calumnies."

Another German S. P. paper, the Chicago weekly "Neues Leben" of the 11th of this month has an article in which this passage occurs: "Here in Chicago, and figuring conservatively, we have enrolled in the County Central Committee, since 1904, on an average 100 new members a month. That makes 1,200 a year, and 4,800 in these four years. What has become of these members? Instead of having grown, most of the branches have a hard time to keep together. Judging from a letter from Ralph Korngold, National Organizer now in Arizona, things are no better elsewhere. 'The party,' says he, 'is in a bad way. During the last eleven months I have traveled through Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Washington, California and Arizona. Everywhere I found absence of interest, the Locals in a state of dissolution, the spirit fled.'"

From this it is obvious that the S. L. P. men and their activity are not limited to Lincoln, Neb., but extend through a vaster area.

What now remains to be considered is whether the S. L. P. activity, that works so disastrously upon the S. P., consists in "circulating calumnies." Upon this subject we shall summon to the witness-stand no less an S. P. authority than Mr. A. M. Simons. In his letter, dated last November 19 and addressed to Mr. William English Walling, the gentleman states: "The S. P. has become a hissing and a by-word with the actual wage-workers of America. It has become a party of two extremes. On the one hand are a bunch of intellectuals, like myself and Spargo and Hunter and Hillquit, on the other is a bunch of 'never-works,' demagogues and would-be intellectuals, a veritable 'lumpen-proletariat.' the actual wage workers, the men who are really fighting the class struggle are outside." This statement has all the more weight considering it was meant for inside information. From which it is clear that the plight of the S. P. is not the consequence of S. L. P. "calumnies" but of facts that the S. L. P. has all along been publishing and proving, to wit, that the S. P. is false to Socialism and a traitor to the working class, as any organization must be that is run by a combination of stage-strutting intellectuals, on one end, and would-be intellectuals, on the other.

Taking the two testimonies together the bottom is knocked from under the anonymous correspondent of the "Volkszeitung." It is not in one locality only, it is in all, that the genius of the S. L. P. is at work. And that genius deals not IN calumny; it deals WITH calumny, by throttling the calumny in the calumnious throats of the S. P. intellectuals and would-be intellectuals.

The S. L. P. men are everywhere, and everywhere their mighty work is in progress—the work of tearing down the false and setting up the true Labor or Socialist Movement.

MASK TORN OFF

U. S. STEEL "PROFIT-SHARING" COMES OUT NAKED.

What the Scheme Really Aimed at—Confiding Stock Purchasers Pinned Yoke on Their Own Necks—Are Now Expected to Scab in Case of a Strike for Better Wages.

Pittsburg, Pa., December 16.—If anyone still had any doubts as to just what the United States Steel Corporation's motive was when it made its famous "stock issuing" move to its exploitees, the plan at once adopted by the corporation to ward off the A. F. of L.'s promised campaign should be sufficient to disillusion him.

There were some important conferences in the Pittsburg offices of the corporation to-day, also, long distance communications with New York. As a result of these conferences, the 40,000 wage workers or the corporation, who "hold stock" and "draw dividends" from the corporation, are looked to "to stand fast," no matter what action may be taken by their unions.

It has been decided to issue secretly to the stockholding workmen of the corporation a statement now being prepared, which pretends to set forth just what "profits" have been paid them since their purchase of the stock, what the stock which they have been "permitted to purchase out of their earnings" is now worth in cash, etc. This, it is expected, will fill the trusting dupes of the profit-sharing scheme with such a desire to save their wonderful "investments," that they will stay at work and do all in their power to defeat any progressive effort of the 165,000 employes of the corporation who have never been foolish enough to pin the yoke on their own necks by buying stock from their exploiters.

Another Dish of Molasses.

But this is not all. It is further expected that at least 10,000 additional workmen will be roped in by another issue of stock to be "offered" employes soon, and with 50,000 workmen in the mills each caught in the molasses dish of "stock-holding" the corporation hopes to laugh at any attempt of its exploited slaves to better their condition.

According to a statement made last midnight from the office of the Carnegie Steel Co., and which is supposed to have been inspired from the head office of the Steel Corporation at New York, the corporation has since its inception been planning to block just such a move as was announced by the allied heads of the craft union organizations of the country, and, working secretly and ruthlessly, it has prepared to combat all moves toward improved wages or working conditions. The bragging statement comes in the shape of an interview with a local official of the corporation whose name is withheld. It reads, word for word in all its hidden poisonousness:

Carnegie Company Blurts.

"When we suggested that the employes purchase the stock of the corporation, we had two objects in view: First, we wanted to make them good, faithful employes and to cause them to take an interest in their work and feel that they were not only a working, but a financial part of a great campaign. We know that we have accomplished this. The men realize that they are making extra money through dividends and the rise in stock on their own labors and they are willing to continue.

"The second reason, and the one which will have its effect in the present crisis, is, we feared, at some time, as is the case in a large successful corporation, that some dissatisfied person would try to inaugurate a strike.

"When such a person, or even a body of labor leaders, realize that they are endeavoring to make men strike and pull down the value of something that they themselves own, they immediately will see the futility of calling a strike.

"Practically every frugal man in the employ of the corporation is the owner of several shares of stock. They are accumulating more and more each day. They beleive in the corporation, and they will not leave it. On the other hand, there are a number of spendthrifts among the employes who may go out on strike if called, but when they see the bulwark of the corporation, the good employes, remain at their furnaces, it is doubtful if then they would strike."

SHY OF VEILED DYNAMITE.

Socialist Party Calls Spokane Protest Meeting, but Doesn't Touch the Issue.

The Socialist party held a meeting at Cooper Union on Dec. 16. It was intended to make a New York public believe that the disgraceful performances in Spokane, Wash., led by men and women who repudiate the ballot and recommend theft as a proletarian weapon and which performances are throwing ridicule upon free speech, are a free speech fight.

The hall filled slowly. The meeting opened at twenty minutes past eight, but the heart of the speakers was not in their work. The job of making anarchy and veiled dynamite appear legitimate was more than the speakers felt they could tackle.

The chairman, Moses Oppenheimer, spoke about employment agencies, and played shy of the issue in Spokane, although he did mention the name of the city.

The first speaker, Henry Frank, spoke forty minutes upon the American flag, uopn Lincoln, upon Thomas Paine, upon Jeffersonian Democracy, upon the suppression of "Lucifer," upon Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus, and other such interesting matter, and he would be speaking yet if the chairman hadn't called him off. During the whole speech he didn't mention Spokane once. All the same, his oratorical effort was received with continuous rounds of applause, and when he finally withdrew, he was encored so many times that he came forward repeatedly bowing to the enraptured multitude, a la Tetrazzini—only he threw no kisses at the audience.

The next speaker on the program was Joshua Wanhope. After introducing him the chairman looked around but couldn't find him. He went after him in the committee room, but came back without him, announcing that Mr. Wanhope was sick. Probably he was. The New York I-am-a-bum wing of the Spokane outfit was probably too much in evidence, and Mr. Wanhope may not have considered himself equal to emulating the feat of Mr. Frank in talking forty minutes and avoiding the burning question.

In default of Mr. Wanhope, Mr. Frank Bohn filled up ten minutes with protestations of his devotion to the ballot, and tears about martyrized heroines; and he rushed off.

A set of resolutions was then adopted but copies were withheld from the reporters.

The meeting was over before ten.

ALBERT RYAN PLEADS GUILTY.

Although Pronounced Insane by Experts, Had to Stand Trial—Astounded Court by Plea.

Los Angeles, Cal., December 10.—Albert Ryan, of the W. F. M., whom many experts testified was mentally unbalanced, but whom a jury of business men nevertheless found "sane," yesterday astonished the Court when he pleaded guilty to murder in the first degree. After he had been found "sane" by the jury he had to stand trial for murder, for the killing of Otto Miller.

Ryan's plea means, it is asserted, that Judge Davis must sentence him either to death by hanging or to life imprisonment.

It is the first time in the county's history when a prisoner has pleaded guilty to first degree murder.

Ryan was the only man in the courtroom who was unmoved by the situation.

While the district attorney, his own attorneys, court attaches, and spectators were in a buzz of excitement because of his dramatic action, Ryan sat apparently unmoved and unconcerned in his chair.

Capt. J. D. Fredericks, district attorney, state he would not oppose a plea for life sentence, instead of hanging, in view of the fact that Ryan has entered a plea of guilty, and in view of the fact that incidents of his past life show an erratic mentality.

"We wanted to place, Ryan behind prison bars instead of in an insane asylum," admitted Capt. Fredericks.

DESOLATE WIDOWS.

And Hungry Orphans, the Aftermath of Cherry—Many Can Not Stand the Memories.

Cherry, Ill., December 17.—Developments at the scene of the mine disaster in Cherry are painfully slow and trying. The mine shafts have been sealed with cement since November 20 when twenty men were brought up alive after having walled themselves in from the black-damp for seven days.

The long delay in exhuming the bodies of between 250 and 300 dead draws out the lingering agony of the bereaved. Next to the vacancies in their lonely homes, the most harrowing sights in the stricken town are the open trenches, which stretch far beyond the new-made graves awaiting the unburied dead. The caving-in is so bad around the bottom of the hoisting shaft, that extensive excavation will have to be made and much re-timbering done before the work of recovery can be begun. The prospect for identifying the dead diminishes with the delay and, worse still, the embarassments of many stricken families are greatly increased, as they must remove from their homes where few of them can any longer earn their livelihood. They have nothing to stay for in Cherry, except to bury their dead and get the wages due the men, or the board bills owed by some of them.

Some families thus unhindered have already moved away. Others have gone without waiting even for the earth to give up their dead. Still others have abandoned the house of their sorrow for other temporary abodes in town. And there are mothers so lonely when darkness settles down upon the unlighted streets and their shadowed homes, that they take their affrighted children to spend the night under the friendly roof of those whose misery also loves company.

However well their immediate needs are met by relief the future looks darker and more destitute than this black present. Many of the bereft are young mothers with several little children and babies at the breast. Births in many instances just preceded or immediately followed the death of the fathers.

WEEK OF WRECKS

24 KILLED IN SMASH-UPS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS.

Nine Separate Accidents—Derailments and Collisions Both Figure—Many of Victims Were Trainmen—Wrecked Trains Frequently Making Up Lost Time.

One of the most disastrous weeks in the history of railroading in this country—disastrous for number of trainmen and passengers killed, and for number of different wrecks—closed last night. The record for the week was nine smash-ups, with 24 killed, and over 150 injured.

The list is as follows:

December 13, Raritan River Railroad, New Brunswick, N. J.; six hurt.

December 13, Canadian Northern Express, at Winnipeg; forty hurt.

December 13, Big Four, at North East, Pa.; three killed, twenty hurt.

December 15, Southern Pacific, at Greensboro, N. C.; fourteen killed, thirty hurt.

December 15, St. Paul, at Bayard City, Iowa; twelve hurt.

December 16, Georgia Central, at Harris City, Ga.; four killed, fifteen hurt.

December 17, Southern Railroad, Chamblee, Ga.; fourteen hurt.

December 18, St. Louis Special, Cleveland; three dead, many hurt.

December 18, Overland Limited, at Western Springs, Ill.; many hurt.

Five Employes Killed.

Cleveland, December 18.—Vassar girls, homeward bound for their Christmas vacations, brought first aid to the injured in a railroad wreck here at 1:55 o'clock this morning.

Five employes of the Lake Shore Railroad were killed and a dozen passengers hurt. The college girls seemed to keep their heads better than the rest of the passengers. They at once plunged into the work of giving temporary aid to the injured and reassuring the frightened.

They had been on the St. Louis special, running an hour late, and consequently faster than caution would have dictated in the intricate network of the Cleveland yards. Furthermore, snow was falling, and this undoubtedly obscured the signals. The engineer is dead. His train crashed into a switch engine on a cross-over.

The Dead.

Adams, H. L., Collinwood, engineer of the passenger train.

Swales, Frank, fireman of the switch engine.

Frank, John, switchman of yard crew.

Burns, W. J., engineer of switch engine; fractured skull.

Basher, C., at St. Clair Hospital; badly injured, unconscious.

Jacob Carrier, fireman on the passenger train, was scalded and is in a series condition, but may recover.

All of the passengers were taken to the Union Station, where a hot breakfast was given them by the company to get on the good side of them. By five o'clock all had resumed their journey.

Oriental Limited Into Ditch.

Chicago, December 18.—That many people were not killed when the Oriental Limited was wrecked to-day is considered a miracle.

This train, which is one of the transcontinental flyers of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, went into the ditch at Western Springs, Ill., at 4:30 o'clock this morning. Three Pullmans containing thirty sleeping people rolled down an embankment. No one was killed; many were injured.

Two women passengers were the worst injured. One got a broken leg, and the other a broken arm. Other passengers were cut by broken glass and bruised and shaken up.

The train had come from the Pacific Coast by way of St. Paul. It was running rapidly, seven or eight hours late. A broken rail sent the three sleepers rolling down an embankment ten or fifteen feet and left them on their sides in the ditch.

Wreck Report Held Up.

Washington, December 18.— de-

(Continued on page two.)

THE INDUSTRIALIST MOVEMENT AND THE SPOKANE ROWDYDOW

[From "Der Arbeiter," Yiddish Organ of the S. L. P., December 18, 1909. Translated for the Daily People by "An Industrialist."]

Five years ago, a conference, composed of Socialists of various affiliations, was held at Chicago, and issued a manifesto to the workingmen of the land, calling upon them to send delegates to a convention to be held in the city of Chicago in June, 1905, for the purpose of forming a general labor organization, based upon the class struggle. All friends of Socialist Unionism hailed that manifesto with great joy.

At that time there was in this country a small economic organization of the character of the one that was to be, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. To some extent the American Labor Union, a small organization in the West, was of the same character. Both bodies came to Chicago and dissolved themselves into the new organization—the Industrial Workers of the World.

Those who were in this country at the time the I. W. W. was founded remember what enthusiasm it aroused among its friends, and what bitter enmity among its foes. Most conspicuous among the latter were the S. P. supporters of the A. F. of L. "Scabs" was the mildest of the terms by which the Industrialists were designated.

The first convention had, despite many errors, given the Movement a decidedly Socialist and revolutionary character. The errors were not due to oversight, but to the fact that the constituent convention was not composed of Socialists only; it contained also other elements. The Socialist majority could only carry through the main points.

Had all who participated in launching the movement been sincere, the errors made would have either been corrected in course of time, or they would have just made the work a little more difficult. But it can not be believed that they were all sincere.

Simons, one of the signers of the Manifesto, and a member of the S. P. National Committee, withdrew soon after the convention, and was converted from a friend of the movement into an enemy.

Moyer, President of the Western Federation of Miners, the organization that was looked upon as the backbone of the new body, intrigued from his cell in the Idaho prison, along with others, to have the second convention repudiate the Socialist character that was given the movement by the first convention.

Debs, who, owing to his great prestige was in a position to do very much in order to save the movement, refused to "interfere" as soon as a fight became necessary.

Likewise still others upon whose big names the movement had partly based itself.

The situation was a peculiar one. On the one hand the S. L. P. men abstained from taking part in the administration, and only served as privates in the army. They did so in order that the prejudices existing against the S. L. P. might not hurt the new movement, which had at that time promised very much for the working class of America. On the other hand, the leaders of the economic labor organizations, even of the progressive and Socialist bodies, proved themselves too small and petty for the great task which the circumstances had assigned to them.

The Western Federation of Miners, together with other smaller organizations, withdrew from the Industrialist Movement, when its Socialist character asserted itself clearly.

The Industrialist Movement then remained in the hands of an administration which lacked the experience, clearness and strength of conviction which are gained by long activity in the S. L. P. Movement; likewise the sense of responsibility produced by heading a great popular movement. In order to attract the "Masses", the administration began to resort to methods which not only do no honor, but are an outright disgrace for self-respecting workingmen, let alone a workingmen's movement.

The time arrived for the fourth and last I. W. W. Convention, in Chicago, 1908, and a large "delegation" came from Spokane and other points in the state of Washington.

In that section of the country there was an I. W. W. organizer by the name of Walsh. His methods found no favor with self-respecting members of the organization, to whom the dignity of their class was very dear. At the first Walsh did not boast of his tactics. But by the time of the last convention the movement had been sufficiently disheartened to enable Walsh to brag of his methods. In long letters, published in the then organ of the organization ("Industrial Union Bulletin") he told how his "delegation" travelled to the convention. How do "delegates" travel such a long distance, not having a copper to their names and clothed in rags? Walsh explained that in his letters. First of all they would sneak into freight cars. That was called "expropriating" the railroad companies, and carrying out "piecemeal" the "Socialist program." As that was the summer season, the "delegates" were able to stop over on the way, when they were compelled to suspend the process of "expropriation", and enjoy a night's rest under the open sky. Early in the morning they rose and supplied themselves with chickens, and other things which men use to slip down their stomachs. That was called "expropriation" of the farmers. When they arrived in a city, they held "open air meetings" in Salvation Army fashion, and sang songs which had as a refrain: "Hallelujah, I am a bum". They naturally attracted large crowds of curious onlookers; and when that was accomplished they passed around the hat for a handout.

That was the way the "delegation" reached Chicago, where they also held meetings. They excluded from the convention those who aspired after a dignified, pure and revolutionary Industrial Movement.

The latter element afterwards held a conference at Paterson, N. J., where they united their forces in order to carry on a true Industrialist propaganda. Their general secretary is Herman Richter, Hamtramck, Mich. This group of organizations issues from time to time leaflets and is doing for revolutionary unionism whatever resources permit.

The "Victors" of the last convention have since come out all the more clearly as "direct actionists". The physical force Anarchists have become their warmest friends.

Petty theft has become with them a "revolutionary" means for the abolition of capitalism—grand larcency being the exclusive privilege of the capitalists. When one of them peddled a scheme to defraud the electric meters, in order to rob the electric companies, it was pronounced a "revolutionary" act, because it "takes back" from the capitalists what they have robbed the workingmen of.

The famous "delegation" with Walsh at its head, returned to Washington in the same manner as it came to Chicago.

The Chicago "Bulletin" went down. The center of those people, who, of course, styled themselves "I. W. W.", was transferred to Spokane, Washington.

At first the "Industrialist activity" there found expression in physical attacks upon the employment bureaus.

There is no doubt that employment agencies have cheated and deceived the workingmen. They do so in all parts of the country, and one may believe that they have also practiced that in Spokane. There may be no doubt that the grievances of the workingmen—of the bona fide and honest workingmen, not of the Hallelujah singers—against the agencies, are real. But grievances do not justify all means. The workingmen always have a sufficiency of grievances against their employers to justify a strike; yet, they are at times correctly advised against striking, particularly against certain kinds of strikes. The fact of the matter is that not only were the workingmen unable to improve their conditions by attacking physically the employment agencies, but they could never entertain any hope of improvement by such means.

The proposition is very simple: if the workingmen are properly organized they can rid themselves of the employment agencies without violent raids; if they are not, they will under no circumstances free themselves of them. But there is another important point in this case. It was only the small agencies that were violently attacked; the large ones were well protected. And whereas to the workingmen no benefit whatever accrued, the large agencies profited by the attacks on the little ones, and they encouraged the violence.

Naturally the police interfered. They suppressed and prohibited open air meetings, arrested speakers and committees, and threw them into jail. We know how brutal the police are against workingmen during ordinary and peaceful strikes; how much more brutal they must have been under the conditions prevailing in Spokane.

The clash with the police originated with the raids upon the agencies, but in the course of time it turned into a fight for "free speech".

There is but one way to fight for free speech under the present circumstances: go into the courts. The S. L. P. and the S. P. have done so many a time, and won out in many, or all cases. But the "direct actionists" in Spokane are no "politicians", and look with contempt upon "law and order". They began extinguishing the flames by pouring oil upon them. They have ever new recruits for arrest. Did they imagine that they would tire out the police? Or that they would exhaust the capacity of the jails? Both thoughts are too puerile for full grown people.

In jail some of them imitated the political prisoners of Russia and declared a "hunger strike". In Russia a strike like that may be a brave act; in the Spokane affair it was ridiculous.

Fearing lest they might run short of "martyrs" in the city of Spokane, they issued a call for friends in other cities to come thither. Some or many did really come to Spokane, hitting the brake-beam—"expropriating" the capitalist companies. Those of them who took a hand in the fight were certainly arrested.

That is what is now taking place in Spokane, according to reliable information received from there. It is very likely that among the "martyrs", in Spokane there are honest, serious and well-meaning workingmen who sincerely believe what they are told, that such methods are "revolutionary", and that through them the working class will free itself from subjugation. But the main figure in this affair is the "Hallelujah, I am a bum" singer. Some of them are hopeless and degenerated slummists. Others are grafters pure and simple. After they have been confined in jail for a few hours, they come out as "martyrs", and ask for a handout on the strength of that.

It is obvious that the real sufferers, and perhaps truly martyrs (of their own ignorance) are the bona fide and well-meaning workingmen.

Unfortunately that farce is carried on under the name "Industrial Workers of the World".

Those who, like the Yiddish "Vorwaerts", "Volkszeitung" and Call", had fought the I. W. W. when it was a clean, class-conscious and growing movement, are now warm friends of the "industrialists" in Spokane. "Industrialism" which is no danger for pure and simpledom, and which furnishes such welcome sensations, is very much to the taste of our dear "friends."

But the "movement" in Spokane is no I. W. W. movement. What was said of the I. W. W. wreck has nothing to do with that. We hope that the true, honest workingmen and industrialists in the Spokane rowdydow, will quickly recover from the "resolution," and instead of getting disgusted at their experiences, will help to build up a strong revolutionary economic labor organization.

WEEK OF WRECKS.

(Continued from page one.)

tailed statement concerning the wreck on the Southern Railroad at Chamblee, Ga., last night, was issued at the headquarters of the company in this city to-day. There were no fatal injuries.

Train No. 37 derailed the tank of the engine between the north and south switches at Chamblee, Ga., and at the south switch two mail cars, a club car and a parlor car were derailed.

Fourteen persons were injured.

Ancient Society

By Lewis H. Morgan

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A. F. OF L. SCABBERY

Tactics of Disorganizing in California Lumber Camp.

San Francisco, Cal., December 10.—Humboldt County, Cal., is a region where the lumber industry thrives, especially the red woods. Here, as the readers of The People know, a strike in this industry took place. The men were organized in the American Federation of Labor, about 1,500, and in the Industrial Workers of the World about 600. The strike was principally called to drive out the I. W. W. It was expected that when the A. F. of L., which had formulated some demands, walked out, the I. W. W. would remain at work, and the A. F. of L. leaders would then call the I. W. W. "scabs." One of the smaller companies came through with the demands, and the A. F. of L. wanted recognition of the union, a thing which the I. W. W. Local could not stand for, as it would thereby strike itself out of existence.

On hearing what the A. F. of L. was up to, the I. W. W. accepted the terms of said company, and its members went to work. Immediately the Executive Board of the A. F. of L. got to work, made an agreement with the company, which was lower than their own demands and scabbed it upon themselves, as well as upon the I. W. W., who were again called out on strike. As a consequence the A. F. of L. put itself out of business, and smashed all organizations in the county. The lumber companies were not slow in taking advantage of the situation and in welding the chains of slavery around their slaves. The A. F. of L. unions have a hospital, for which they sell tickets at $10 per year. The companies inaugurated a system whereby the men had to pay $1 a month hospital fees. Union labor tickets were not recognized. The case was fought in court and the companies were enjoined, forcing them to recognize tickets of the Union Labor Hospital, but, to get around that injunction, the companies established their own hospital where the men were compelled to pay the fee or go without a job. The Pacific Lumber Company, one of the largest, has a hospital at Scotia, where it owns likewise the entire town: houses, hotel, stores, meat market, and saloon, are run by its employes, with the exception of the Red Light district, which is leased out.

The employes are led to believe that they own the hospital. A governing board has been established, but the men have no say in the election or appointment of said board. It consists of general manager Blocklinger as president, foremen, bookkeepers, and a smattering of better paid and generally all around servile tools of the company.

To make the workers believe that they own the hospital, the Board decided to pay benefits of $1 a day, in case they are injured while actually at work. If one is injured outside of working hours, he may go to the hospital, but he gets no benefits. For instance, a man broke his leg in "his own time"; he got the benefit of the hospital, but not the one dollar a day. When the case came before the board, Mr. Blocklinger suggested that it would be a bad precedent to establish, and the funds would soon be depleted.

Then, the company has a blanket insurance on its men. When one is hurt, it receives $500, more or less.

The companies have established a complete system of blacklisting. There is an employment bureau in Eureka, known as the Lumbermen's Employment Agency, where a complete record is kept of every man. A worker who shows rebellious spirit finds it difficult to find another master. In this way they have the spirit of the "Woods" men completely cowed. But there are still some left, however, who have not been intimidated and they will be ready to get into action when the opportunity offers.

August Gillhaus.

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LABOR ORGANIZATION

Old Style Outgrown Must Make Way for Industrial Unions.

"The development of unionism was as natural as the development of the factory system, which made the association of workers necessary. So long as factory owners and factory operatives worked side by side in the shop, so long as the man who bought and the man who sold labor belonged to the same social class, so long as a close personal relation existed between master and man, there is no need for organized labor, but when in the complicated development of the factory system the employer, once associated in business with the employee, found in the management of the concern his sole occupation and became separated from the workman by a hierarchy of foremen and overseers—the personal relation between the buyer and the seller of labor lost—it came about quite naturally that the workman combined his efforts with the efforts of others in his class in order to command connectively that consideration from the employer which each employee had received individually in the earlier stages of the factory system.

"First, the men in separate shops talked over their common interests in friendly discussions while at their work. Later they continued these discussions in the evening at some appointed meeting place, and the local trades union was born. With the growth of class consciousness local federations of labor followed, recognizing the common interests of all hand workers in the community, and these federations in turn, became united in a national labor movement in which the welfare of the individual became subordinated to the welfare of the toilers as a class."

The growth of the labor union is thus described by Jonathan T. Lincoln in the Atlantic. This is alright as far as it goes.

But this type of union is only fitted for slightly bettering the worker under the wages system of industry, and often it can not even do that.

If the wage worker wants to help himself to any noticeable degree, and eventually throw off the wages system under which he is forced to divide his produce with his employer, he must organize in another sort of a union.

This is the industrial union. In it all the men in one industry are members of one union, and not split up into a dozen different organizations as we see them to-day. And more than this, the industrial union is not content with merely bettering wages a little under capitalism, but the system must go entirely, and thus free the worker. Then he will get the full product of his toil.

SWAT!

Another Labor Law Goes Down Under Court Blackjack.

Galveston, Tex., December 18.—The State Court of Appeals knocked out the telegraphers' eight-hour law, enacted by the Legislature, by a decision rendered to-day in the case of the Texas & New Orleans Railroad. The higher court sustained the district court in declaring the law unconstitutional and the decision is final.

The court declares the law compelling railroads not to work telegraph operators more than eight hours a day is "in conflict with federal statutes, which allow nine hours as a working day," for the reason that railroads are "practically interstate methods of communication" and "necessarily the federal laws must take precedence."

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KNOWS FULL WELL

That It Is Not by Work That Fortunes Are Made.

When Labor's exploiters get into one another's hair, owing to their conflicting economic interests creating a parting of the ways, outsiders are given an opportunity to scan inside thoughts of the exploiters. In England at the present time, a campaign is on to relieve the Lords, that is, the landed gentlemen, of a portion of their unearned increment. The manufacturing and commercial classes are loath to put up for all the taxes themselves, and they don't see why the "peers" should not be made to shoulder some of the "burdens" of their country. The landlords, these bourgeois point out, are doing nothing but holding title to the land and deriving enormous returns from those who are renting it for industrial purposes. As the governmental expenses are mounting ever higher and the capitalists plunging ever deeper for the taxes, they think it is about time that the nobility be made to dig up something. The Lords, of course, are as loath to part with their ill-gotten gains as any bourgeois, and they have brought on the present crisis in English political affairs. As a consequence we hear some truths dropping from the lips of the rebuked capitalists.

David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has presented his reasons why the lords should be given a chance to "contribute a little into the poor box." Coolly and collectedly Lloyd-George claps the nobles into the class of unemployed, where indeed they belong, but with this qualification: they are voluntarily unemployed. Correctly understood, the term "unemployed," in economic science, comprises workingmen out of work through no fault of their own, and who are denied the opportunity to earn a livelihood. The English lords do not fit in that category; they disdain work. And there are just as many of such Lloyd-George's unemployed among his capitalist associations as in the titled ranks.

But the eminent English statesman asks this question: "Who is responsible for the scheme of things whereby one man is engaged through life in grinding labor to win a bare and precarious subsistence for himself, and when, at the end of his days, he claims at the hands of of the community he served a poor pension of eight pence a day, he can only get it through a revolution, and another man who does not toil receives every hour of the day, every hour of the night, while he slumbers, more than his poor neighbor receives in a whole year of toil?" Thereby an inside fact is let out; a fact which, under ordinary circumstances, Labor's mentors usually deny: that the wealthy class, the land-owning and tool-owning class, get their golden stream without exertion, while the toiling masses are eternally grinding it out and receiving so little that they die of want after life-long toil. Lloyd-George's statement flies in the face of gospel capitalist economics; it routs them, and thereby confirms the Socialist contention that the rich are but a lot of parasites sponging upon Labor.

Of course, the Chancellor of the British Exchequer would bring his charge against only the rebellious Lords. But are capitalist magnates more worthy than their landed cousins? Is not the stockholder's only perquisite to his income that he have the cash, just as the landlord's is that he have title to the soil? Neither of them engages in grinding labor, but they both exact tribute from the helpless worker, helpless because propertyless. And it is this exaction in the shop as on the field which leaves the worker stripped and distressed his life long, and pushes him into despair and death at the cheerless prospect before.

The admission of Lloyd-George should mislead no one; it is wrung from him in an hour of pain; it does not necessarily denote compassion for a suffering multitude. All of the Lloyd-Georges under the sun would never put an end to the scheme of things responsible for the deplorable conditions which they know exist among the world's workers. This scheme can ben ended only by those who feel the oppression, the workers themselves, and they must unite in a political party of their own, the Socialist Labor Party, to abolish a system of private ownership of the means to life.

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Woman Under
- Socialism -
By August Bebel

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL GERMAN OF THE THIRTY-THIRD EDITION BY DANIEL DE LEON.

The Woman Question is not a question by itself; it is a part of the great social problem. Proceeding along this line, Bebel's work is an exhaustive analysis of the economic position of woman in the past and present. Despite the boasts of Capitalist Christianity the facts show that under Capitalism woman, especially of the working class, is degraded and dwarfed physically and mentally, while the word home is but a mockery. From such condition of parenthood the child is stunted before its birth, and the miasmas, bred from woman's economic slavery, rise so high that even the gilded houses of the capitalist class are polluted. Under Socialism, woman, having economic freedom equal with man, will develop mentally and physically, and the mentally and physically stunted and dwarfed children of the capitalist system will give way to a new race. The blow that breaks the chains of economic slavery from the workingman will free woman also.

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POVERTY

ITS CAUSES LIE NOT IN THE WORKINGMAN, BUT IN HIS EMPLOYER, WHO ROBS HIM.

The primary and dominant causes of poverty are not shiftlessness, laziness, unreliability, theft, gambling, vice, crime, immorality, heredity, early marriage, large family, physical defects, ignorance of English, desertion and non-support, illiteracy, ill health—that whole category of individual or social defects in character which has been designed more or less with the view of holding the individual responsible for poverty.

It is comforting, possibly partly because it enables us to remain in smug contentment with conditions as they are, to be told that the individual is responsible for his condition of poverty; but it is far from being the truth. Society must recognize that industrial and economic conditions, far more than personal characteristics, make poverty, and that to prevent it society must control or remove these fundamental causes.

Instead of dissipating social energy in feeble attempts to cure we should direct our combined strength toward the prevention of poverty, for if poverty is prevented it will not have to be cured. In fact, it is very much to be questioned if poverty is curable. We do know, however, that much if not most of it can be prevented.

It is not possible to measure with any degree of accuracy the amount of poverty caused by industrial accidents; we cannot even measure the extent of the accidents. It takes very little imagination and acquaintance with actual conditions, however, for one to see that on our railroads, in our coal mines, in the metal trades, in mechanical industries, in the manufacture of explosives, sulphuric and nitric acids, and in other dangerous industries accidents play a part among the causes of poverty, accompanied as they usually are among workmen by a period of many weeks of illness altogether and expenses increase for medicine and burial. In all these and other industries employment is inseparable from the worker being exposed to the possibilities of accidents.

Frederick L. Hoffman, a well-known writer of insurance subjects, estimates that the number of accidents among men employed in manufacturing industries alone for 1906 was 208,300, of which 5,000 were fatal, and the remainder more or less serious. The estimate is, of course, wholly inadequate, as it is not only confined to accidents among men workers but to manufacturing industries; it takes no account of casualties in mines and quarries, transportation by land and sea, and all general employments. Whether the total number of accidents each year in the United States is 208,300 or more than 500,000, the fact remains that in consequence a tremendous amount of poverty comes not only to the injured victims but to their families also. Hoffman says that fully one-half of the fatal accidents are more or less the immediate result of dangerous industries or trades.

For illustration, in the anthracite mines of Pennsylvania there were 4,833 fatal and 11,084 non-fatal accidents in ten years. In the same periol in the bituminous coal mines of that State alone there were 3,522 fatal and 7,671 non-fatal injuries. One single mine explosion in West Virginia last year left 124 widows and 532 orphans in a condition of social dependency.

In railroading the risk to the health, life and well-being of the workers is one of the most serious met in industrial pursuits. The most important group of employees is trainmen, the number exceeding 300,000. Among this number there were 2,301 deaths in 1906 from railroad casualties; in addition there were nearly 35,000 injured, or at the rate of nearly 123 for every 1,000 employed. In the ten years to 1906 there were 16,363 fatal and 221,685 non-fatal accidents among railway trainmen alone in the United States. This did not include similar accidents to switchtenders, crossing tenders and watchmen, railway clerks, flagmen, and freight handlers.

The degree of accidental injury is of importance in its relation to poverty. The most extensive investigation is the one made by the New York State Department of Labor covering the five years ending in1906. Of 39,244 accidents in factories and workshops, 31,722, or 80.8 per cent. caused temporary disablement to the worker, and 6,580, or 6.8 per cent. permanent disablement. The fatal accidents for the same period amounted to 864.

How some accidents happen is indicated in the report of the Factory Inspector of Pennsylvania. Referring to the iron and steel works, he says:

"The reckless manipulation of cranes and hoists; the hasty and faulty hooking up of heavy weights; the slipping of furnaces; the overturning of ladles filled with molten metal; the speeding of engines and cars without light, bell or flagman through the yards of large establishments thronged witn busy workers; the ordering of employees to work upon rotten scaffolding; the employment of foreigners ignorant of our language and habits in dangerous occupations without words of caution and without proper oversight, are crimes against humanity that call for drastic legislation."

An analysis of accidents in New York shows more than 50 per cent. are the immediate result of machinery in motion. Some of the causes are belts shifting, pulleys, elevators hoists, cranes, hot liquids, acids, steam, explosives, collapse of buildings, falling objects, fall of persons, vehicles and animals.

We do not need to point out that industrial accidents usually mean to the injured unemployment, increased expenses along with decreased savings—altogether a sharp push toward if not over the poverty line.

That many of these accidents could be prevented is not mere theory. It has been demonstrated by the experience of European countries. Hoffman says that if the rate of casualties of railway employees in this country were reduced from 2.50 per thousand, the annual average or 1897-1906, to 0.98 per thousand, the average or the German Empire for the same period, the saving each year would be 1,735 valuable lives.

If the accident liability of employees in coal mines in the United States were reduced from 3.10 per thousand, the annual average rate for the period 1897-1906, to 1,29 per thousand, the average rate in the United Kingdom for the same years, the saving in human life in our coal mines each year would be 915.

Furthermore, it should not be impossible ,says Hoffman, to save at least one-third and perhaps one-half of the 35,000 male wage earners killed annually in American industries, and this could be done merely by the exercise of intelligent and rational methods of factory inspection, legislation and control. By the same means how great a proportion of the vast number of non-fatal accidents could be prevented?—accidents that not only involve an inestimable amount of human suffering and sorrow and poverty but materially curtail the normal longevity and efficiency of those exposed to the often needless risk of industry.

Here are some typical illustrations of where the burden falls:

A man, assisting other workmen in the construction of a house, while wheeling a wheel-barrow stepped aside to let a fellow-workman pass. He was jostled, which caused him to lose his balance. He fell and was made a permanent cripple. He received no compensation from anyone.

A workman on a city sewer was injured by an explosion. While in this case a small indemnity was allowed, at the same thing the authorities explicitly stated that the city was under no obligations to pay anything, although the disability caused by the accident was permanent.

While performing his labors at a freight depot, a workman met with an accident which cut off his earnings for several weeks, he becoming a dependent on charity. He received no compensation.

In another case a workman was caught in a rope and crushed before the machinery could be stopped. This accident, for which no compensation was made to the worker, was due to the absence of proper safeguards to the machine.—The Metropolitan Magazine.

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"UNPARALLELED"

That's the Kind of Prosperity Taft Says the Workers Are Getting—Take a Look.

While Taft tells us in his Message that the country is enjoying "unparalleled prosperity," a look into any of the trade journals tells a far different tale.

Take, for instance, the reports in the "Granite Cutters' Journal." Here is one from Barre, Vt., in the very heart of the granite industry:

"Nothing to report this month, at least nothing of an encouraging nature. We have been living in hopes for the past few months that trade conditions would improve in our little town, but no, our fondly cherished hopes got all shriveled up on the morning of November 16, when the bosses with solemn looks informed the cutters that the sheds were closed for the present. Well, the members went home, scratching their heads and thinking hard about what the trouble could be. After nosing around a little it was found that there had been a fizzle at one of the one-horse plants in Northfield over the cutters declining to work a machine called the 'bumper.' We scratched our heads the more, and thought still harder and are still thinking, but seem to be unable to realize why we are all locked out here, because there is a little trouble in Northfield. However, we are still on the street and 'waiting for something to turn up,' but trust that something will be done soon, so that the cutters can return to work. There is one thing that the members here are agreed upon, and that is, the agreements we sign with the manufacturers are nothing better than a bundle of waste paper."

Pretty good, that realization the agreements with the bosses are only so much waste paper when a boss wants to violate them. What can a workingman do? He hasn't got enough money to buy food for his children, much less to fight long drawn law suits. But to return to our "prosperity." Here is another report, from Atlanta, Ga.:

"Business not so good, but we are in hopes for a turn for the better."

Always the same hope, hope, while the master class plucks us and tells us to hope, hope some more. Little cause for hope here:

"Albany, N. Y.—Business is not improving here. There is only one job that employs a gang of men the year round; the other yards employ a few men in summer and then nearly all of them shut down in the middle of winter"—just when the workers need work most.

"Bridgeport, Conn.—We have been busy most of the time, but we suppose our loafing time is coming fast. The days are getting short and cold."

"Boston, Mass.—Business seems to be on the decline in Boston at present."

"Baltimore, Md.—There has been a slump in business since last month, and a number of men are idle as a result."

"Charleston, S. C.—Trade here shows no improvement."

"Cincinnati, O.—Business is at a standstill at present."

Aye, and at a standstill it will be, as far as the working class is concerned, till they take things in their own hands and establish the co-operative commonwealth.

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A WORKSHOP COMEDY

OR, AN A. F. OF L.-ITE TACKLES THE S. L. P. BUZZ-SAW, AND LEARNS BETTER : : : : : :

A. F. of L.-ite—I heard an S. L. P. speaker make a statement last night and if I had my way I'd chase all his kind out of America.

Socialist Labor Party Man—I bet it was a sound statement anyhow.

A. F. of L.—He ran down the American Federation of Labor, with its anti-backwards races resolution.

S. L. P.—Good for him. I bet he socked the thing.

A. F. of L.—We won't stand it. We won't associate with these Chinese and Japs who work for lower wages than we. We are a superior race, and (sticking out his chest) I'm an American!

S. L. P.—Don't tell anybody, and they'll never know. It wasn't your fault.

A. F. of L.—You're as bad as he is. And you an American, too! Where is your patriotism? Have you no appreciation of the noble stock from which you sprung, the Revolutionary Fathers, the greatest patriots the world has ever known?

S. L. P.—For the scenes of my childhood I have many pleasant memories, but I and the S. L. P. refuse to be made a tool of by the capitalist class, by creating and fostering race prejudices and diverting the workers' attention from the real issue, (not foreigners versus American workers) but the Class war, the Capitalist Class versus the Working Class. That is the issue to-day. All so-called "problems" and "issues" that are raised either by knowing capitalist politicians, the A. F. of L., or your backers, the so-called Socialist party, are side tracks for the working class.

A. F. of L. (doggedly)—We'll nail that plank down anyhow.

S. L. P.—You hold the worker is a wage slave?

A. F. of L.—Yes.

S. L. P.—And the capitalist is the enemy of the worker?

A. F. of L.—Yes.

S. L. P.—Your "Chinese Exclusion" resolution is rotten, for such a plank is a contradiction of your previous admission, the result being that the plank has been attacked by "white ants," and your foundation is a hollow mockery.

A. F. of L.—You can't get away from OUR superiority.

S. L. P.—Where did you learn of this superiority?

A. F. of L.—At school. It's a tradition of our race.

S. L. P.—Exactly. What would you have been taught if you had been born in Germany?

A. F. of L.—That we Germans were a superior race.

S. L. P.—If you had been a Frenchman?

A. F. of L.—The same of course.

S. L. P.—You're getting wise now. If all these nationalities were in one factory, and you all lined up together and boasted of your national "superiority," what would be the result?

A. F. of L.—There would be a rough and tumble in a minute.

S. L. P.—Right again. Now, you say the capitalist is an enemy?

A. F. of L.—Yes.

S. L. P.—Well suppose you were all dissatisfied with the conditions in the factory, and you wanted to organize to improve them. The Boss could keep you from organizing without making threats.

A. F. of L.—I don't see it.

S. L. P.—All he need do is, tell the German that you're no good and he only keeps you out of charity, and tell you that the German and Frenchman are no good ditto, and tell the Frenchman that he's the best of the lot and if he could get more Frenchmen he wouldn't have you around the place. And besides, he could increase profits easily by telling each, that their race was a superior race to the others and were the best craftsmen he had ever seen. The result would be, you would all be stuffed with his blatherskite and would tear into the work to show the boss that you were the superior race. (S. L. P. pulls A. F. of L.'s ear.) The boss would be laughing up his sleeve.

A. F. of L.—That never struck me before.

S. L. P.—It takes the S. L. P. to form tactics, and besides you kick against the apprentice as much as against the foreigner.

A. F. of L.—He reduces our wages and takes our jobs.

S. L. P.—But he belongs to the "superior" race. He's a true-blue American.

A. F. of L.—Superior race be blowed. I'm fed up. Don't mention it again.

S. L. P.—'Tis true a large number of immigrants are apt to cause lower wages, if the supply of workers is greater than the demand, but recent events showed that thousands of workers in America had not only wages reduced—but NO WAGES AT ALL. And no immigrant caused it.

A. F. of L.—Well I suppose you'll prove this as easy as the other case, so let me down easy.

S. L. P.—No sir. I'll knock the stuffing out of this "Jap," this "Chinese" cry; and when I get through you'll admit that, supposing the framers of the Exclusion resolution were sincere, they haven't as much brains as would fill a peanut shell. One thing that knocks men out of work by "taking our jobs" is machines which do many times as much as hand labor, but I won't outline that at present. I'll give you something to digest without that. You remember the hat bosses' lockout of 15,000 hatters last year.

A. F. of L.—I should say so. Our Union levied an assessment for them.

S. L. P.—Who locked them out? A Chinaman or Jap?

A. F. of L.—An American.

S. L. P.—An American and a capitalist.

S. L. P.—Any scabs—Chinese or Japs?

A. F. of L.—Not one.

S. L. P.—Remember the shirtwaist makers' lockout in this city?

A. F. of L.—Yes.

S. L. P.—Were the shirtwaist bosses Chinese or Japanese?

A. F. of L.—No, they were Americans.

S. L P.—But they must have been Chinese or Japs, for you claim that these races lower your wages and take your jobs, and these employers took away all the jobs by locking out the men and girls, and the men had no wages at all. So they must be foreigners.

A. F. of L.—You're talking nonsense. The hat and shirtwaist manufacturers are capitalists. That's why they took away the jobs, because they owned the jobs.

S. L. P.—You're on the right track now. Remember the great 1902 coal strike?

A. F. of L.—I'll never forget it. It was such a fizzle.

S. L. P.—Who took the strikers places. Chinese or Japs?

A. F. of L.—No sir. Every mother's son was a white American, kept at work by his Union officers.

S. L. P.—Just so. Now defend your statement about your "superior" race, and the Chinese and Japs taking your jobs. Hurry up.

A. F. of L.—I can't. I never felt so sick in my life. It is as clear as daylight. That resolution is rotten; and we used to pride ourselves on our Declaration of Principles, and I never thought the S. L. P. could make it look like a sieve.

S. L. P.—And we will too whenever it becomes necessary to do so. And don't forget to come to our open meeting. I'll let you know when it is.

A. F. of L.—All right. I won't forget it's the capitalist system with its private ownership of the factories, etc., that takes away the jobs and lowers the wages of the workers: and that the "race superiority" cry is to divide the working class.

S. L. P.—Yes, and I'll lend you Gustave Herve's speech on Anti-Patrtiotism, which exposes the "patriotism" of the capitalist class and shows that true patriotism is International Working Class Patriotism.

A. F. of L.—I'll be pleased to have it, and I'll take back what I said about chasing all S. L. P. men out of America. And here's my hand: let's shake. You were right. The men who made the A. F. of L. Exclusion resolution hadn't enough brains to fill a peanut shell.—Adapted to America, from the Sydney, Australia, People.

INDIVIDUALITY

Logical Course of Present Social Order Destroys It.

Doctor Luther Halsey Gulick, director of the department of child hygiene of the Russel Sage Foundation, believes that the family, as a unit, is passing.

While correctly observing the detrimental effects which this passing of the family unit entails, the director seems to be at a loss to explain what should be done to restore the lost advantages to the household. A Socialist could settle such a question very easily, knowing that it is the present profit system which is at the bottom of all evil.

"The house at present, particularly in the city," Dr. Gulick says, "has been home no longer contains the interesting things for the boy and girl to do, so play also is leaving the home. The home was always the centre of children's play. It is yet in the case of little children, but it is no longer a centre of activities, and children want to be where something is doing. We have taken out of the home the social life, more so in the city than we have in the country.

"The school is a far more interesting place, for there things are happening—things can be done and there is companionship. The city home is too small to permit many children to come in and play. The old fashioned, large hall, with its fireplace, we no longer have. Think of making a Harlem kitchenette a centre of social life."

Dr. Gulick calls attention to the fact that the many functions of the old family are now being performed by the community in other and, in the main, better ways.

"The first important change," he says, "is in reference to work. The home used to be the place where the work of the world was done. All the activities which were there carried on by the father have gone forever from the home. Our great-grandfathers nearly all of them lived on farms. Each farmer was a complete unit. There was made the clothing from the backs of sheep, and all tasks involved in providing the food were performed for the family by the various members of it. The members of the family not only furnished their own meat and vegetables, they made their own tools and harnesses, they shod their own horses.

"Even the preparation of food has largely gone outside of the city home. So much of our food is prepared by machinery that only a small part of the cooking is done in the home. Our cakes, pies, bread and much of our meat are cooked outside of our homes and the preserving of fruit is rapidly becoming a lost art, so that a woman who can do this now is able to command high prices for her product.

"Everywhere the family is ceasing to be the centre of the activities of the world. Is the West the steam gang plows sixteen furrows. There is no place for the boy to take the lines of the horses and act with his father in the operation of breaking the soil. And with woman the same change of relation to the home can be seen. The girl no longer inspired for a woman's work by co-operating with her mother. The chances are that her mother's duties, whether the family is in the city, village of county, have so changed that her co-operation is impossible.

"It was through these activities that the children of the world got that moral development we call character. And for this development nothing in the world can take the place of work—straightforward hard work. The opportunity for this is fast leaving the home; indeed, in a city like New York, has practically left it."

THE BINDERY GIRL.

Promptly just at seven-thirty
You can hear the old bell ring;
Down the line then comes the foreman
Who thinks he's the real thing.
With his usual frown he greets us;
Everything is in a whirl.
Nothing slow and nothing easy
In the life of a bindery girl.

"Hurry on, there!" cries the foreman.
"Get to work, there; don't be so slow!"
Every girl then soon gets busy—
There's no time to lose, you know.
You can't laugh and talk and giggle,
You can't fix your hair in curl;
You can't dress in silk and satin
If you are a bindery girl.

You are never talked to kindly,
And you dare not even smile;
For, altho' the boss seems busy,
Still he's watching all the while.
It has been said by a poet
That each tear was worth a pearl,
But I tell you tears are plenty
In the life of a bindery girl.
—Carrie Taggert, in The Bookbinder.

TRAIN MORE THAN MILE LONG.

Roanoke, Va., December 17.—A train of 120 steel cars, carrying six thousand tons of coal, and drawn by a single engine, left Roanoke for Norfolk to-day over the Virginian Railway. The train was six feet more than a mile in length, and is said to have been the longest ever drawn by one locomotive.

Until the workers know Socialism they are the hopeless victims of Capitalism Spread the light!

Make It Totally Illegal to Strike.

Sydney, New South Wales, December 17.—The employing class has been so demoralized by the coal strike, that the Legislature to-day took the drastic step of passing a bill rendering both strike leaders and employers who instigate or aid a strike or lockout, liable to a year's imprisonment.

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

WEEKLY PEOPLE

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888	2,068
In 1892	21,157
In 1896	36,564
In 1900	34,191
In 1904	34,172
In 1908	14,237

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1909.

No lie you can speak or act, but it will come, like a Bill drawn on Nature's Reality, and be presented there for payment—with the answer, No Effects.

—CARLYLE.

THE ARITHMETICAL POLICY.

The Philadelphia "Tageblatt," a Socialist party German publication, whose hair The People's fingers have frequently closed upon, is of the opinion that its party would simply commit suicide if it does not take a pronounced anti-immigration stand towards Orientals.

It was this same "Tageblatt" that, startled six years ago at the sight of the Socialist Labor Party's unterrified posture despite all odds, gave up the hope of terrorizing the Party saying it was no use expecting to remove the S. L. P. from the scene, seeing that "that party counts neither the number of its enemies nor the number of its supporters."

It is this expression that gives the key to the workings of the "Tageblatt's" mind, and also to the workings of the mind of its party, on the Immigration issue, as well as on all other issues of importance.

Innumerable are the instances in history when a small band that would have been wiped out, had it counted the number of its foes and the fewness of itself, yet nevertheless mopped the earth with its adversaries. The spectacle has been seen in all climates. It has been seen too often to be considered a mere miracle. There was good ground for it, every time. Whenever the spectacle was seen the reason therefor was a high moral purpose founded upon a sound foundation. Against such a combination no adverse numbers can prevail; IT is an absolute majority.

Those with whom their own numbers and the numbers of their adversaries are the determining factor in deciding upon a policy bring along with them the fatal disease that is bound to kill them. From wishing to be with the masses to becoming a sensationalist there is but a short step. The stars themselves work against the success of such folks. Few things blind the chaser after "success" so completely to his own interests as crowds.

When the Philadelphia "Tageblatt" fears death for its own party if it does not take a posture in denial of Socialism the paper but counts the foes of Socialism; sees them to be numerous; and imagines them unconquerable. In other words the "Tageblatt's" Socialism is so skin deep only that it has no faith in its Socialism. With such people the policy may be termed arithmetical—the worst foundation for any revolutionary movement.

The arithmetical policy is an all around deception—as proved by the "Tageblatt's" posture. The arithmetical policy is deceptive in front and in the rear. Witness the "Tageblatt"—the paper not only is deceived into the belief that the numbers of the foes of Socialism are beyond conquest, it is also deceived into the belief that its party is still alive seeing the considerable number of its corpses.

THE TRUTH ABOUT NICARAGUA.

War against Nicaragua is being fomented by press, pulpit and professorships of capitalism on the ground that President Zelaya is a barbarian who tramples upon the Law of Nations.

The facts from which these conclusions are drawn are these:—

Two Americans, one Groce and another Leroy Cannon, residents of Nicaragua, took up arms against the Government; they were routed, captured and shot. Upon this it is claimed that Zelaya violated the Law of Nations—prisoners of war are not shot.

The conclusion—prisoners of war are not shot—is a begging of the question. Of course prisoners of war are not shot. But were Cannon and Groce prisoners of WAR? If they were, then rioters against a government wage legitimate war. This is a ridiculous proposition. Such "prisoners of war" have repeatedly been executed in this country. The fact is Groce and Cannon were two American adventurers, who joined an armed force against the government of President Zelaya, and sought to earn their living by internal disturbances. Such people fall not within the Law of Nations regarding prisoners of war. Their fate is regulated wholly by the criminal code of the nation in which they live.

In view of the facts, which are not denied, and the conclusions, which can not be disputed, why this violence done to reason? Why twist riot into "war," a common prisoner into a "soldier," and the legitimate action of Nicaragua into a "violation of the Law of Nations"?

The celebrated Baron Von Munchhausen tells the story of a fox he was once chasing, and which ran so fast that it outran its own skin. That is the picture American capitalism is now presenting.

In the language of the Republican platform this country has "a vast domain of 3,000,000 square miles literally bursting with latent treasure." Yet so headlong is the course of American capitalism, that, with all these opportunities, still untouched at home, it out-runs its own skin. The Groces and Leroy Cannons are the raw body that leaped into Nicaragua, and the skin, which the body left behind is now hying after it to re-cover the body that out-ran it.

Hence, riot, to which swift punishment would be meted here, becomes "legitimate war" in Nicaragua, and captured brigands are converted into "prisoners of war" entitled to be treated as such.

This is the long and short about the threatened Nicaraguan war.

TAFT ON THE BOWERY.

About 500 unemployed, as many as could be crammed into the Bowery Mission, were entertained on Monday the 13th in the basement of the Mission with tobacco and coffee, and, the singing of hymns being less expensive than coffee and tobacco, were later taken to the chapel and kept busy singing, in expectation of the arrival of the President, who was booked to visit the "boys."

The crowd had just got through with "I'm Holding On" and had switched to "Nearer, My God, to Thee" when President Taft entered. Photographers' cameras flashed and boomed. The real incident was above and beyond photography.

There, in the presence of 500 men, all of them willing, anxious, able to work but condemned to idleness by a social system that bars the wage slave from the opportunity to exercise his labor-power unless some employer can whack profit out of him;—there, in the presence of those 500 men, a veritable "delegation" of the tens of thousands of others who are tramping the land, and of the many more than 500 who on that very night, the wettest December known for years, breasted the storm in search of shelter; —there, facing such a sight, stood the Chief Representative of Capitalism—and, did what? He did, unconscious though the deed was, contribute his share to eliminate rancor from the Class Struggle in the only way that rancor can be eliminated, to wit, by exemplifying the utter lack of intellect on the part of the Ruling Class regarding the Social Question, hence the utter futility of looking to its representatives for help.

It should not be doubted that President Taft felt sick at heart at the sight of the human waifs crowded before him, and that he spoke sincerely when he told them: "I assure you that your fellow citizens and more fortunate fellows aren't the greedy and oppressive persons some would make them out to be, but more than ever are their hearts open to help the suffering, and the desire to do so is growing every day." A clearer picture of helplessness before the social problem can with difficulty be conceived.

The sad plight of the proletariat is, in the President's language, a matter of "bad luck"; society, according to his words, is a Wheel of Fortune, and, as with Wheels of Fortune, the prizewinners are few, the losers many, as a matter of course; nor do winners need be hard-hearted, their hearts will open, but not their purses, on the contrary, luck being the thing, the lucky, naturally, cling all the more tightly to the system that keeps them out of the rain and wind and cold. As the representative of capitalist society the President of the Nation had nothing to offer but the salve of pity to alleviate unavoidable, God-ordained pain.

This is, indeed, the posture of the Capitalist Class—dense ignorance. And their class interests cultivate the density. Not rancor, but the benignest of firmness is the means that ignorance calls for its dissipation. Capitalist dense ignorance should cleanse the proletariat of all sense of rancor, and urge their systematic work to fashion the broom that shall wipe out Ignorance.

As the President stood and spoke before the 500 unemployed who fled from the rain into the Bowery Mission the gist of his words were:

"How long will you workers tramp in the Wilderness of Capitalist Class Ignorance?"

No photographer's camera could snap off that picture.

SAVINGS BANKS BENEVOLENCE.

Although the workingmen, or women, who have moneys in the savings banks are few, the unwilling light that is being thrown upon the savings banks by the discussion whether the interest on the deposits should be lowered from 4 to 3½ per cent. is of more than general interest.

All the savings banks, of course, would like to pay as small an interest as possible on their deposits. The lower the interest they pay, the larger the dividends on the stock of their stockholders. A circumstance interferes to check this tendency—the competition among these "benefactors of the poor man." Each of these "poor man's banks," as savings banks love to call themselves, tries to cut the others' throats—out of pure love to the "poor man." A way to attract depositors is to raise the rate of interest. So it happened that rates were recently raised from 3½ to 4 per cent. Now some of the savings banks have proposed to the others to lower the rate back to 3½ per cent. A dispute arose; and truths are being told. Among these truths is the information that during the late crisis, when stocks tumbled, the savings banks made large purchases, and that, these large amounts of cheaply bought stock having regained their former standing, the savings banks have become enormously more wealthy, and can well afford to retain the 4 per cent. rate of interest.

This information is choice. The workingmen, however few they may be, who make any deposits in savings banks, do an injury to themselves and their class. The moneys so deposited are borrowed by capitalists to buy improved machinery and thereby throw workingmen out of work. Thus workingmen's deposits reappear in the shop in the shape of the means that knock the bread out of workers' mouths. This is well understood. Less well understood is the "benevolent" working of savings banks in another direction.

Top-capitalists are not forced by crises to unload their stocks. A crisis is usually their opportunity to buy cheap, thereby to expropriate the small holders. The stocks dumped on the market at times of crises are dumped by the smaller fry—the middle class; and this is the class that patronizes savings banks.

Accordingly, the revelation now being made of the greediness of savings banks to profit by the distress of the class of people whom crises pinch shows these savings banks to be direct agencies for the pauperization of the very middle class from whom they recruit most of their patrons.

Pretty good for "banks of the poor man"—they are the means to knock out of work those who are already proletarians; and they are the means to help turn into proletarians the small holders who are not yet there.

ANOTHER CLARIONISM.

The thanks of the Movement are due to the Vancouver, B. C., "Western Clarion" for affording a fresh opportunity to hold the mirror of Pure and Simple Ballotism up to the misshapen face of Pure and Simple Bombism, and, thereby, vice versa, to hold the mirror of Pure and Simple Bombism up to the misshapen face of Pure and Simple Ballotism, and illustrate the identity of the cut of the two respective jibs.

Pure and Simple Bombism asserts that political action is no part of the class struggle. The proof of the assertion is sought in two other assertions, to wit, that the suffrage is "a concession of the bourgeois," and that the whole power of the capitalist lies in his economic power. Then follows the conclusion: "Once the working class attains that economic power it can enforce obedience to whatever it may see fit to decree." When the Pure and Simple Bombist is asked: "How will you attain that economic power for the revolutionary act without a political party to preach the revolution and thereby recruit the ranks of your economic organization?" silence ensues, accompanied with the kind of gurgling sound that usually accompanies a solar plexus.

And now comes the "Western Clarion" of Pure and Simple Ballot stripe, and asserts that strikes, boycotts, lockouts, etc., are no part of the class struggle. The proof of this assertion also is sought in two other assertions, to wit, that having sold his power to labor the worker has no claim upon the products of that applied labor-power, and that the whole power of the capitalist lies in his political power. Whereupon follows the conclusion: "Once the working class attains that power it can enforce obedience to whatever it may see fit to decree." When the Pure and Simple Ballotist is asked: "How will you attain that political power without an economic organization which, by supplying the ballot with its needed physical force backing, shall insure your not being counted out?" silence ensues, the silence that follows the dull thud of a knock-out blow.

And thus the two sets of Pure and Simplers, each taking hold of a fractional truth, each, like all fractional holders, the slave of the arrogance and pride that shallowness ever breeds,

His still-refuted quirks he still repeats,
New raised objections with new quibbles meets,
Till, sinking in the quicksand he defends,
He dies disputing and the contest ends.

IF, AND WHY?

If a paramecium, one of the lowest forms of animal life, fresh from a feast upon bacteria, a still lower form of life, were to wave its cilia gravely and declare itself a protector and patron of bacteria, no one supposes the bacteria would give ear to the siren song and stand around in rows in joyful anticipation of being eaten.

The cuckoo is a bird that visits other birds' nests, throws out the legitimate eggs, and deposits its own to be warmed to life under the despoiled mother bird's breast. If a cuckoo were to set up as an indispensable support of eggs and nestlings, it is not likely she would be accorded a hearing in bird society.

If a wolf, hot from a raid upon a sheepfold, should mount a stump and proclaim himself the prop of all mutton, there are two things which of all others would not happen: The surviving sheep would take no stock in his protestations; and they would not be seen placing themselves and their lambkins under his benign propship.

When Attila with his Huns ravaged Europe, they did things thoroughly. They sacked, burnt, pillaged and spread rapine. Cities were destroyed, art and literatures wiped out. If Attila had had the fine irony to herald his approach upon some new town as its savior and heaven-sent guardian, it is inconceivable that the townsfolk would have sent out delegations to welcome him within their walls.

If a road-agent of a few decades ago, after cleaning up all the valuables in a stage-coach, had conferred upon himself the title of High and Mighty Conservator of the Privileges of Transportation and Commerce, his victims would have formed no posses for his protection against the nearest sheriff.

Yet in one week two sets of capitalists are revealed as destroyers and hamperers of production. In Kentucky the pooled tobacco growers nightrided against and burned the tobacco of their rival. In New York the American Ice Company is denounced by a United States federal attorney as having, by its incorporation, "sounded the death knell of the ice industry in Maine." Any other week, if kept tab on, would prove equally fruitful in self-confessions, glaring acts, or proven charges against other members of the capitalist class. And in spite of all this, that self-same capitalist class is hearkened to when it dubs itself the Director of Industry and the ever present Patron of Production, and workingmen can be found who will believe its tale, will place their own and their children's destinies in its clutch, and will even, if called upon, go out and be shot down for it.

Why?

VOTE FOR STRIKE.

Railroad Bulldozing Does Not Rattle Trainmen.

Chicago, December 18.—In spite of all the wire-pulling, threatening and bulldozing indulged in by the railroads, the conductors and trainmen of practically all the forty Eastern railroads have voted to ask for an increase in wages ranging from 10 to 30 per cent., and changes in working rules.

The vote, which was almost unanimous on the various lines, was canvassed to-day by President A. B. Garretson, of the Order of Railroad Conductors, and W. G. Lee, of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. The returns were still coming in to-night.

The only way the roads can now defeat the demands is by resorting to their old tactics of buying up A. F. of L. labor "leaders" to betray the men.

The demands which will be presented to the railroad officials early in January, are based on the increased cost of living in the last three years. After the demands are presented the employes will proceed to negotiations and it may be some time before a contest, if any, ensues.

The campaign of the conductors and trainmen is for a standard rate of pay on Eastern lines similar to that in force in the West. The Eastern wages are different on almost every road.

BRITISH LABORITES

Interesting Facts Towards the Pending Elections.

Leith, Scotland, December 4.—In the November 13 issue of The People on the editorial page appears an article under the caption of "Bermondsey" which idealizes the recent election there as a split off from Liberalism. The Bermondsey incident does not deserve such praise, in my estimation.

Many such instances have taken place. Quite recently in a Sheffield division a Socialist Laborite was elected, Pointer, a member of the Independent Labor party as this Bermondsey Laborite is; more, Victor Grayson also an I. L. P.-er at a bye-election in Colne Valley ran as a "Socialist," i. e., a Nationalizer, and was returned. Surely a vast improvement on this mongrel candidature praised in this article. Grayson is and has been bitterly assailed for his above board attitude by his party. Recently he took a plebiscite of his constituents as to his attitude in calling himself a "Socialist," when he was vindicated by a very large majority. The I. L. P. are a body, many of whose principal men deny the class struggle and it is those men who give the party voice. In an election manifesto just published the following appears, "Socialism does not mean robbery, but justice; it does not mean tyranny but liberty; it does not mean class hatred but fellowship." They propose to tax the capitalist on behalf of the workers, and are ardent supporters of Liberal finance, because it taxes the rich. This Liberal Budget is hailed as a Socialist one. They profess to see in the taxation of "land values" a means toward the nationalization of the land as a first step towards Socialism. Mr. Philip Snowden, M. P., who makes an addition to his income as Labor Correspondent to the capitalist press, sees in the Labor party in time the party that shall hold office, and did write an article justifying the employment of the military at Belfast to curb the striking dock workers thuswise:—"We are hearing from some quarters the usual violent denunciations of the Government and the capitalists as murderers. It might have been well to indulge in such extravagances when the movement had to fight to command a public hearing. But now the party is becoming recognized as worthy to be endorsed with the responsibility of administration and it must show some sense of the fitness of things, and some regard to facts and truth. Therefore, in any case, in the Belfast case the employment of the military must be justified on the circumstances of the case." This is the ornament par excellence of the I. L. P. Mr. Robert Smellie, president of the Lanarkshire miners' union, is an advocate of the Poles being kept out of the mines, under the guise of their ignorance of the English language, they are a danger down the mine, and has given evidence in favor of their expulsion by the Government. What is this but anti-immigration? The inferior races nostrum of your own American S. P. He too is an I. L. P.-er. This J. Keir Hardie, too, some two years ago wrote a letter to a black student at Edinburgh University that the British Army has always been used to oppress the weak and ever since he has been a M. P. he has voted the money to support this instrument of capitalist tyranny. The I. L. P. is affiliated with the Labor party, and with it they have shown the utmost hostility to Industrial Unionism, they hold "only political agitation is necessary." This is quite explainable of course, as it has been up to the decision of the law Courts in the case of Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants vs. Osborne that it is not legal to spend the funds of the Trades Unions for Parliamentary purposes, and even since, the way the money came to keep them in their political jobs. As members of the Labor party they have gathered the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table in the form of favors from the Liberal Government: being given places on the committees of the House. This "Labor movement" is having a very decided influence to attract the attention of the workers away from the workshop and to that of political or Governmental interference in industrial affairs, of which the capitalists have not been slow to take advantage by setting up under the President of the Board of Trade "Panels of Arbitration" composed of Labor leaders and capitalists, under which the workers of this country have gone down in not a few most humiliating defeats, the A. S. R. S., the miners, the cotton disputes, etc., and we are about to witness by all appearances now as I write the withdrawal of a number of Labor men opposing Liberals, and in three-cornered contests where the risk of a Bermondsey is to be run, and the return of a "unprogressive" Tory, or Liberal Unionist would accrue. There are rumors of agreement all around "to defeat the Tory House of Lords for throwing out the people's Budget." These rumors are not only rumor, but are likely soon to form into actions, if the chairman (Mr. Henderson) of the Labor men in the House, is to be nothing but truth. Speaking to the motion put to House of Commons on Thursday, December 2, by the Prime Minister "That the action of the House of Lords in refusing to pass into law the financial provisions made by this House for the services of the year is a breach of the Constitution and a usurpation of the rights of the Commons" he said: "What," proceeded Mr. Henderson, "does the claim of the House of Lords by its decision really mean? It means, in our judgment, that the House of Lords, no longer content with a long and disgraceful record of obstruction (cheers) mutilation, and destruction in regard to legislation, through which they have defrauded the people of many of the fruits of self-government have now become emboldened to try their hands as the resolution before the House suggests at the usurpation of the rights of this House in regards to questions of finance. In order to do so they have subverted the principles and methods of the Constitution (cheers). Where does such a position as they have taken up lead us? It leads to a position absolutely foreign to all the rights and powers of self-government (cheers). It establishes an uncontrolled force antagonistic to democratic thought and tendencies. It concedes a power which might be used in the future to unmake this House no matter how recently it might have been sent here by the electors. . . . My last word is that if we on these benches can lawfully assist in getting from them (the electors) an emphatic verdict in this direction all the powers we possess will be used in that direction."

By this showing we are about to witness the "dishing" of the working class here by the capitalist class again to save a Constitution that has only for them the ignominy, sorrow, want, with incessant toil, of wage slavery. The "Socialist Laborites" gasps, "the Budget." I think it will be enough on this head to say to our American comrades, that its capitalist nature has been enhanced by your very own A. F. of L.'s blessing which has been sent to Mr. Lloyd-George through the British Trades Union fraternal delegates, and these I. L. P.ers, too, a God-speed to this "People's Friend." How these "Socialist Laborites" must have slobbered this upstart middle class lawyer to their fellow fakirs of America! It is because of all this and more, nay more, the sins of Labor fakirs, and fake Socialists parties are great as in your country, we we say to idealize Bermondsey is an error.

But we, the S. L. P., mark and rejoice in the rising Labor sentiment in rank and file of our fellow workmen, and by education and agitation we are drawing it to some extent to Socialism and Industrial Unionism, "and as a consequence towards "unhorsing Reaction," not the "Socialist Laborites," with their Budget and reform nostrums.

David Fraser.

GERMAN TRADES UNIONS AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY.

German trades unions have several features which tend to distinguish them from similar organizations in almost every other country. In the first place their membership has risen in a phenomenal way. Ten years ago the aggregate strength was less than can be mustered by our Miners' Federation. Today they number almost 2,500,000 members, and their funds indicate a healthy solvent state. More than 2,250,000 of the German trade unionists are affiliated in the Social Democratic party, a strictly political body. A most significant feature in this connection is that while all the federations of unions felt the depression of 1908 those belonging to non-political organizations experienced by far the biggest decline; the decrease in membership in the latter instance extending back five years. The non-political societies total about 5000 less than in 1903, but the Social Democrats have gone up over 750,000 in the same time.—Factory Times.

Sad Christmas for Mill Hands.

Lowell, Mass., December 18.—Christmas will be a sad affair in a thousand or more families here.

In accordance with the "curtailment policy" adopted by the cotton mills of New England, the Tremont and Suffolk mills closed to-day. They will reopen on December 27. The shutdown throws 3,500 operatives out of employment for the week.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

UNCLE SAM—I saw you reading the Socialist Labor Party's platform. I'm glad of it. Are you going to join?

BROTHER JONATHAN—I don't yet know. There are a number of things I don't understand.

U. S.—Which one, for instance?

B. J.—How they're going to do it. For instance: here are the Vanderbilts and others owning the railroads; there are the Goulds owning the telegraphs. I understand that Socialists want all these things, including the mines, the factories——

U. S.—The whole machinery of production, transportation and distribution.

B. J.—But all these things are now owned by private individuals. How are these to be taken from them? Are these people going to be bought off? If so, where are you going to get the money from? Or——

U. S.—Bought off! Was King George "bought off"? Did the Colonists raise money to pay him? My recollection of the transaction is, that, when "moneys were raised," they were raised to knock down King George, not to buy him off.

B. J.—Why, then, Socialists mean to confiscate all these things-

U. S.—Did the Revolutionary Fathers "confiscate" the colonies?

B. J. puckers up his lips.

U. S.—They belonged to King George?

B. J.—They did.

U. S.—If the simple act of taking away a thing from one who "owns" it is "confiscation," then surely these Colonies were "confiscated."

B. J.—I don't like the word "confiscation."

U. S.—But wasn't it confiscation all the same?

B. J. makes a wry face.

U. S.—Let me come to your aid. It wasn't confiscation.

B. J.—I'm glad you say so!

U. S.—You evidently feel that the taking away of the Colonies from King George has all the outward marks of confiscation, and yet you feel a strong aversion to giving that name to the action of our Revolutionary Fathers. There is a conflict in your mind. The reason is that you are not clear upon an important legal-historical and sociologic fact.

B. J.—Which?

U. S.—The term "confiscation" implies the recognition of some law. If the property taken is owned by a law that is recognized, then the act is confiscation; if the law on which the ownership is based is denied, then there is no confiscation. Now, then, under no sun that ever shone, have peoples ever folded their arms and died "by law." Just as soon as a people realize that a certain system of laws stands between them and their lives that law goes. Catch on?

B. J.—I do.

U. S.—Now, then, the propertyship of these Colonies in King George was grounded on certain laws. Just as soon as our Revolutionary Fathers saw that the trouble lay in their social system, they kicked the law overboard——

B. J.—Bully for them.

U. S.—And took possession of the country. Their depriving King George of what he had was not "confiscation" because the Revolution overthrew the law on which his "property rights" rested, and established another system of laws that vested property in them——

B. J.—And high time it was too.

U. S.—So with regard to the ownership of these mines, railroads, factories of the nation. The proprietary rights of the present owners, the capitalist class, are grounded on a certain system of laws. So long as people bow to them they will consider the taking of that property to be confiscation. But our people feel pinched and are going down. As our Revolutionary Fathers did years ago for quite a while, so do our people now grope about bowing to those laws. But they will pretty soon discover that these laws stand between themselves and their lives. Soon as they make that discovery, the law will be overthrown, and, with that, the proprietary rights of the capitalist class.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

"TWO TWITTERS" SINKING IN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Sunday, December 11, an S. L. P. agitation meeting was held in the Auditorium at Evanston, Ill. This is A. M. Simons's home town, and is about one hour's ride north of Chicago. During the discussion some of the S. P. members present took exception to our criticising their party. To soften their feeling, "Two Different Twitters That Run Into One Twitter" was read to them and duly explained. They got copies for further study and will bring the matter to the attention of their Branch. So Mr. Simons better look to his own fences in Evanston before he starts on a national scale. Carry the war into Africa. A. S. C.

Chicago, Ill., December 13.

MAKING HAY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—While just now the S. P. membership is trying to ascertain why their party is going to smash, several of their head men, led by their national secretary, J. Mahlon Barnes, are active feathering their future nest. Yesterday's "Yiddisher Arbeiter Welt," S. P., contains the announcement that a moving picture company has been organized with Barnes as president, and John Chase, Victor Vatti, Henry Allen and Carl Scraver as directors. The company will open a theatre in Chicago and show "Socialist" and other pictures in the "interest of the broad masses," and later will establish itself all over the country. The special bait to induce their "dear comrades" to attend the shows will be: Half the proceeds for the Socialist Movement; the other half will be profits for the private owners. Nothing like making hay while the sun shines, for these S. P.-ers.

Vigilant.

Chicago, Ill., December 11.

SPOKANE "INSIDES."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—My attention was attracted to a copy of "The Labor World" of Spokane, Wash., by the Arm and Hammer emblem. Thinking it to be in sympathy with the S. L. P.—as no doubt many would at first glance—I secured a copy and looked it over and found myself deceived, so much so that I immediately set to writing what I found in this copy, issue of December 10th.

On the title page, the main article informed me that William J. Coates, president of the Spokane Sectional Central Labor Union, was elected one of the delegates to the coming Washington State Federation of Labor convention. Arriving at the Editorial section I found this same Wm. J. Coates to be Treasurer of the Board of Control of the Company which issues the paper, and, lo and behold! the notorious David C. Coates—of the so-called Socialist party, who, in the S. L. P. pamphlet "Behind the Scenes" (p. 46) is shown up as a receiver of free transportation passes from railroads in Colorado—is Associate Editor.

This was not enough apparently, for on page seven of this same issue, I find an "Assessment Notice" of the "Champion Copper Company, a corporation. Location of principal place of business, Spokane, Wash. Location of the Champion Mine, Stevens Peak in the St. Joe mining district, Shoshone County, State of Idaho," signed by William J. Coates as Secretary of the Board of Directors, with office at the same address as "The Labor World."

Such is the type of the A. F. of L.-S. P. leadership. Is it any wonder the paper also sympathizes with the I-am-a-bum element in the alleged free speech fight in Spokane? How many of these "hunger-heroes" also have stock? No Compromise.

E. J. Warren.

Spokane, Wash., December 11.

A CONTRAST.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I find that the Congressional Library in this city keeps on file the Daily People; the Rand School of Social Science of New York, religiously taboos the paper. How's that for "social science," "toleration," "free speech," etc? W.

Washington, D. C., December 13.

AS TO FUSION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have noticed that the S. P. paper, "The Call," recently found fault with the British Labor party because of a probable fusion with the Liberals. In England the Labor party is siding with only the Liberals; it does not side with Liberals and Lords at the same time. But the S. P. is so broad as to fuse with Republicans and Democrats, at one election.

A. S.

New York, December 11.

MONTREAL WORKERS HEAR SOUND DOCTRINE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Not much lately has been heard in The People from this corner of the capitalist inferno, but the workers must not judge by this that there is no activity in the Socialist Movement here.

The pure and simple political S. P. here have long been obtuse in regard to the question of the correct form of economic organization necessary to Labor's emancipation, indeed denying in many instances that any such organization is needed. Signs are, however, now becoming apparent that a change of front is under way, the result of the persistent agitation of the proletarian auditors at their meetings, aided by Socialist Labor Party adherents. As a matter of fact the industrial unionism propaganda has made itself felt and there is no escaping its conclusions ultimately, however much contumely may be heaped on the heads of those who have the temerity to force the discussion of this subject to the front.

It is encouraging to note that here in this city there are evidences of revolt among the workers in the conservative old time unions.

By invitation from the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners of this city (not affiliated with the A. F. of L.), Comrade Leach (with one or two other comrades), attended one of their meetings and addressed them on the subject, "Studies in Industrial History." The meeting was well attended and the address was listened to with close attention. After going over the historical part, viz.: the development of feudalism into capitalism, Comrade Leach proceeded to show, aided by some diagrams, the position of the modern wage worker, the commodity character of labor power, and surplus value. The question of taxes was referred to, and it was shown that they were paid out of the surplus value extracted from the workers, and did not come out of wages, which latter were the necessary cost of the workers' existence. The diagrams proved very helpful in making this clear, and a number of questions were put to the speaker, showing that considerable interest was aroused.

Canadian readers of The People are particularly urged to consider seriously the recent announcement in its columns, by Comrade Courtnay, regarding the appropriate time now to form sections or revive those at present doing nothing of an organic nature and to fall into line for active work. It is to be hoped now that the clearing of the movement is going on, that this appeal will not be lacking in responses. L. J.

Montreal, Canada, December 8.

P. S.—The parallel columns re A. M. Simons letter to Walling in The People of December 8 should be an eye opener to some people. On with the propaganda!

L. J.

A SEATTLE OPEN-AIR MEETING.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In the evening on Thanksgiving Day, D. G. O'Hanrahan, the organizer of the S. L. P. Section in Seattle, held a rousing meeting at which 115 copies of the Daily People were disposed of, and 10 pamphlets sold.

The organizer told the crowd of interested listeners, in part, that the Socialist Labor Party has waged a war against all the fakirs, crooks, and grafters, who play "mock heroes" and "martyrs." These folks, as we have them here, go to jail for a few hours, to have an excuse to come out on a street corner, and like an up-to-date fakir, tell the workers how they "suffered" for them, and get them to shed tears as big as doughnuts. Then they hypnotize the crowd, pass a hat or a bushel basket around, and make 'em "dig up" before they awake from the "spell," as the money "goes to fight the case."

Do they fight it? Yes; they fight each "case" of bottled beer, to the last drop, and lick it in the finish. There were a few of the guilty ones in the crowd, making an attempt to break up our meeting by calling us "disrupters"—a case of "stop thief." And there were loud squeals heard over the editorial "Anent Spokane," in the Daily People. A very loud squeal was heard from a member of the I-am-a-bum brigade of the Seattle physical force department No. 13, who knew that he was licked and beaten in the argument mentally, but wanted to get the best of it physically. So he got drunk to drum up enough courage to oppose the S. L. P. speaker, and got left. D. G. O'Hanrahan explained the editorial "Anent Spokane" in this way: "The 'Old Man' waited until all of the grafters and mock heroes got into one pot, and then he (De Leon) put the lid on 'em, and stirred 'em up with a stick. The result was that they started to squeal, and some of them are squealing yet as I understand."

One of the guilty ones who was not known before opened his face and said something; the organizer told him that he must be tarred with the same stick or otherwise he would not squeal. The crowd took a good look at his face, and the shape of his head, to know it in the future. The organizer also stated that the S. L. P. will stick the harpoon of facts deep into their flesh, and twist it around and make them squeal harder yet.

Other speakers followed. Comrade Leaf held his crowd well against the combined efforts of the I-am-a-bums who were trying their best, for an hour and a half, to smash the meeting. He told the crowd that the S. L. P. did not make appeals for a collection on the streets, but appealed to their reason, and urged them to buy the literature published by the S. L. P., read up, get posted and get next and wise to the mock-heroes. Leaf said we do not come out to sing "Hallelujah, I am a bum," or any other bums' song, or come out to tickle the workers in a soft spot for a collection. We of the S. L. P. have no use for "bums," either barrel house bums, professional bums, or self-styled bums. We fight all the enemies of the working class down to the slum-parasites, who live on the backs of the working class like a pack of vermin, who play the part of a modern Cuckoo Peter of the times of the Crusaders: "On, to Jerusalem!"—or a cheap imitation of General Coxey and his army, with the cry of "Forward, on to Washington," to be told to "keep off the grass."

The meeting was closed at 20 minutes to 10 o'clock, as all the Daily Peoples we had were sold, and the crowd well-satisfied.

Stephen Branch.

Seattle, Wash., December 1.

PIERSON HELPS SECTION HOUSTON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—During my two days' stay in Yoakum, eight subs were secured for the Weekly People. Since arriving in Houston I have with assistance of comrades Nelson and Blumhardt landed five subs for Der Arbeiter and sixteen for the Weekly People.

Section Houston held a general party meeting last Wednesday night for the purpose of outlining the propaganda work during my two weeks' stay, and to instill new life into the members.

Another meeting will be held next Sunday in conjunction with an entertainment and it is to be hoped that our comrades and friends will turn out en masse in order to make the meeting and entertainment a success.

Owing to cold weather we had only a fairsized crowd at our out door meeting held last Thursday night at Market Square. We sold a few pamphlets and landed one sub for the Weekly People.

Two street meetings will be held during the coming week and every effort will be made to get S. L. P. literature into the hands of Houston's wage-slaves.

We have received two applications for membership, and, as our Houston comrades have promised to take up the work with renewed energy, I feel safe in saying that you can expect better results from this neck of the woods.

Chas. Pierson

Houston, Tex., December 12.

LABOR SKATING IN HARTFORD.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—For some time past and up to the present, the labor skates of the Hartford, Conn., Central Labor Union have been on the war path, and in order to make the fact known meetings have been held in the city and in the surrounding towns. The capitalist press seems to be pleased with the rantings, for it gives them lengthy reports.

The world outside of the Nutmeg State will naturally think that a great economic upheaval has taken place here, of which they have been kept ignorant and which has caused the "noble fighters" to put on the war paint. But bless your soul, these noble fighters have loftier aims than common everyday struggles, for they proclaim that Capital and Labor are brothers, and if these two sometimes quarrel, why should they mix up in a family affair? No, it is not this, but politics. Those who know that the constitution of the Central Labor Union prohibited the discussion of politics in their meetings may be stunned, but what are constitutions for anyway?

They tell us now that for sixteen years they had a begging committee, or, as they are pleased to call the thing, "legislative committee," in the lobby of the capitol, to "work" for favorable labor laws. The begging has never amounted to much, if at all to anything, but this year it has been absolutely nil. To use their own words: "Practically all the labor measures have been turned down." This treatment has aroused their ire and now they are on the war path for scalps.

But this will be an arduous job, for there are so many that have not behaved as expected, or as promised before election. Only a few are mentioned as "friends of labor," and among these none is more eulogized than the late Governor Lilley.

In giving due credit to the courage of these "noble" fighters, it must be said their logic is lacking. According to their own statement, the interests of capital and labor are identical. Therefore in accordance with this reasoning, their fault finding is entirely out of place, for as a matter of fact brother Capitalist is often better educated, and surely has more time to spare on the intricacies of lawmaking than brother Labor. And as the former has succeeded in the world through his "ability" and "superior wisdom," he should be best able to judge what is good or not for brother Labor, just as considerate parents know best what's good for their children, no matter how much these may clamor for certain things.

Considering all this it is very unreasonable to try to prevent the re-election of certain lawmakers, who have done their duty to their party, and who, after all, may enjoy just such opposition, remembering boastful Sammy when he pledged the "millions" of the A. F. of Hell to Bryan, with result that his opponent was elected.

It is disgusting to listen to the rantings of these labor skates. Devoid of all principle they pin all their faith on persons. That such ignoramuses can be and are elected to leading positions shows more than anything else the character of the pure and simple labor movement.

Observer.

Hartford, Conn., December 11.

PROFESSIONAL S. P.-ER TURNED DOWN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—While the S. P. is rent from centre to circumference and passing a tragic state of dissolution, doctors are being called into consultation, and the wise men generally have reached the limit. In all this dilemma Branch Columbus, while deluged with vast amounts of the "best" of literature, including the "Appeal to Reason," hit upon a trail that I hasten to submit to the party generally for its consideration. Of course, in this matter, the columns of The People have to be utilized, as no direct means are open to approach.

The matter is like this: The leaders realize their condition and keenly feel the humiliation that an unsound attitude on the trades union and other matters have brought them to, still their hatred of De Leon shows no signs of abating, nor do they think of apologizing, the least they could do, for the frightful condition into which they have thrown the wage working class. The action of Branch Columbus was to not allow the Weekly People to be distributed at its meeting. That came up in this way: It had been the habit of Section Columbus or the writer individually, to make a liberal distribution of the Weekly People at their meeting occasionally marking such articles as we wished to call attention to. The last time we were at their hall a crisis was brought on by a Dr. Adel, a De Leon hater, moving not to allow O. Freer to distribute The People in their meeting. This motion brought on a struggle which terminated in the defeat of the motion. We are happy to note that common sense is beginning to assert itself among the rank and file, as we know that when they are awakened they will soon roll back the dark clouds the Dr. Adels have enveloped them in. Oscar Freer.

Columbus, O., December 14.

SOME NEW HAMPSHIRE S. P. HISTORY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—After reading Leo J. Lambrigger's letter in the Weekly People, December 11, I thought it none too late to show up some New Hampshire S. P. tactics and their class-conscious principles, which may interest the comrades to go a gunning with.

Enclosed find the interesting bit of news written to me on July 24, 1904, from Francistown, New Hampshire, and signed by Geo. D. Epps.

Geo. Howie.

Manchester, N. H., December 13.

(Enclosure.)

Francistown, N. H., July 24, 1904.

Mr. Geo. Howie,

Dear Sir:—

I am in receipt of yours of July 21, and will say that I have not yet answered the letter in question. I received one a few days ago from an unknown party, saying that at a Socialist meeting I had been selected as a candidate for State Senator, in one Senatorial District, by the Socialist party, and as I was not a member of the party in good standing would I kindly enclose fifty cents which would make me eligible. I have not yet done so, and should I fail to respond I suppose that would bar me out, and no great harm done.

I remain, yours respectfully,

Geo. D. Epps.

WILLING TO BE SHOWN.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I met a stranger on the street to-day and he gave me a Weekly People card, at the same time telling me that your paper would teach me more about the Socialist movement in one issue than I could obtain from any other paper in three months. I am therefore sending to you for a trial subscription as I wish to find out for myself.

C. M. Reed.

El Centro, Cal., November 29.

OTTO GEORGES.

Whereas, Comrade Otto Georges, the youngest member of our Section, San Antonio, S. L. P., of Texas, was suddenly taken by death from the ranks of our membership,

Whereas, Comrade Georges was always a loyal member and so long as his health permitted, a faithful worker for the Cause of Socialism, and for the principles of the Socialist Labor Party, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Section San Antonio, S. L. P., expresses its sincere appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Movement by Comrade Georges during the years of his membership; that it sees in the death of the Comrade a loss to the Movement that will be keenly felt and deeply regretted by all those who knew him; and,

Resolved, That we, the members of Section San Antonio express our sincere condolence to his parents; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of Section San Antonio, a copy sent to the bereaved parents and to the Party organs for publication.

Otto Schuettel,
Robert Strach,
—Committee.

BOND AND FREE.

The toiler starves while earning bread,
The idler feasts and fats, instead;
But be ye of contented mind—
For God is good and Fate is kind!

* * *

The ass that bears the bag of grain
To mill—That ass may not complain;
Or he who gets the golden grist
Will dub the brute an Anarchist.

Fate takes from him who never shirks
And gives to him who never works;
'Tis bread for him of brains and brass—
And thistles for the stupid ass.

The priest feeds full upon the toil
Of him who tills the barren soil;
But should the peasant say him nay—
That peasant is anathema.

Fate steals from him whose fingers bleed
And gives to him who has no need;
And should the sinner make complaint,
He's heaping hardship on the saint.

The work bee, drudging far from home,
Denies himself—to fill the comb;
The drone at leisure, sleek and perk,
Discourses on the worth of work.

—Exch.

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BETWEEN THE
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LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

A. F., NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y.—The ballot, for instance, is a great conquest of civilization. It is so great a conquest that Socialists everywhere strain to obtain the ballot, where it is withheld, and strain to preserve it where it is threatened. This notwithstanding, no sane Socialist would think of standing by the man who insisted upon the right to cast his vote outside of the voting booth, or at any hour he pleased. Exactly so with free speech. It is one of the most precious conquests of civilization; for that very reason, stern reprobation is due from every civilized man, from every Socialist, in particular, of whomsoever would cast ridicule upon free speech by claiming that right in justification of wild screeches at any time and any place, and dispute municipal regulations which are everywhere respected by Socialists; without which, not free speech but bedlamism would prevail; and which, if they are improper, there is an orderly way to attempt the correction of.

R. B. W., ST. LOUIS, MO.—In a way it is doing injustice to the S. P. to say it "misleads" people. The S. P. is a mere trailer which FOLLOWS the crowds that are being shed by other bodies, and which it seeks to attract with its bleatings. The S. P. leads nothing.

"READER," SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—If you have seen "honest workingmen drop their work and start for the Spokane free speech fight," and you kept quiet, then are you guilty for not having attempted to steady the ship of their sentimentality with the cargo of sound information that would have saved them from being taken in, and thereby helping to throw disrepute upon their own class.

"A READER," NEW YORK—The functions of a Notary Public begin and end with taking depositions.

W. R., PHILA., PA.—The theory of value is that the value of a merchandise depends upon the amount of social labor crystallized in it, and necessary for its reproduction. Capitalism does not like that theory. Its effect is to render Labor the sole source of value, with the further effect of uncovering the capitalist's profits as "withheld wages." To escape this disagreeable pickle capitalist professors claim, one time that value depends upon utility, another that value depends upon the market. In this way capitalists get themselves in a tangle which occasionally produces such movements as the late free silver craze. At such times capitalists are forced to fall back upon Socialist philosophy.

A. W., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—If your "difference of opinion" should be respected by the Daily People, for what reason do you not respect the Daily People's "difference of opinion"? Fact is there is no difference of "opinion" in the matter. It is a difference of "facts." You stand on none, while the Daily People is planted upon facts.

D. B. M., GRANITE, OKLA.—The passage in Marx's "Eighteenth Brumaire": "Accordingly, the interests of the farmers are no longer, as under Napoleon, in harmony but in conflict with the interests of the bourgeoisie, i. e., with capital; they find their natural allies and leaders among the urban proletariat, whose mission is the overthrow of the bourgeois social order"—that passage gives cold comfort to those who would make the class interests of the petty farmer the same as the class interests of the wage earner. At the time of the first Napoleon the small farmers, like the small traders in the cities, had their "future before them"—capitalismward. At the time of **the third** Napoleon, the small farmer **and small** trader had their "future **behind them**"; they had been outstripped by capitalism; they were left behind as a refuse class. That stage being arrived at, the interests (not the "class-interests") of these people coincide with the class-interests of the proletariat, or wage earners. The class interests of the wage earner made, from the start, for the overthrow of capitalism. From the start that was the proletarian standard. The small farmer and trader, having been outstripped by capitalism, have come up to the proletarian standard. Seeing that it is they who came up to the proletarian standard, not the proletariat that came down to the small holders' standard;—seeing that the small holders' standard has become a back number, whereas the proletarian standard has moved forward, in step with capitalism, and is up-to-date;—seeing this, Marx, who carefully chooses his words, does not say that the proletariat will find their leaders among the back-number element; he does not even leave in doubt with which of the two elements leadership must rest; he says explicitly that the small holders find their "natural allies and LEADERS among the urban proletariat." And he explains why: because the proletariat has for its "mission the overthrow of the bourgeois social order," which is not the mission of the small holders. They have failed in their mission. That whole chapter of Marx's is luminous. The socially back-number class, though crushed by capitalism, has immediate economic needs—cheap goods when they buy; dear goods when they sell; low taxes, etc.;—that savor of its origin; the up-to-date class of the proletariat has no economic needs, immediate or otherwise, except such as make for the overthrow of capitalism. Proletariat leadership means leadership of proletarian class interests to the exclusion of all others. Hence no other class interests can be the same as the proletarian.

E. E., TACOMA, WASH.—There is no I. W. W. in Spokane. What there is in Spokane is a lodging-house aggregation, without the semblance of a Union. The Spokane lodging-house aggregation oppose, individually and through their organ, the "Industrial Worker," all thought of the ballot; to say nothing of individual acts, there and elsewhere among their sympathizers, their organ, the "Industrial Worker," repeatedly suggests theft as a proper method for the revolutionists. These facts have been often stated in these columns; they are undeniable. Undeniable, therefore, is the conclusion the Spokane concern is a slummist affair, and to be guarded against as Marx warns in his "Eighteenth Brumaire," as the worst foe of a Labor Movement. Treason to the working class would consist in standing by such an element. It would be helping the capitalist to get such an element to render free speech ridiculous.

E. H. C., BELLINGHAM, WASH.—Well grasped. Shall put it this way: The S. L. P. will brace itself to the utmost against any Commune Disaster drenching the working class of the land in blood. There are so many feather-weighty people whom phrases will sweep off their feet that the cool, calm firmness of the S. L. P. in such instances if of prime importance.

A. L., NEW YORK—Such severity towards the Yiddish S. P. paper "Vorwaerts" is dangerous in that it is apt to lead one into false moves and expectations. Of course the "Vorwaerts" is a "nasty thing," of course it is "corrupt to the core," of course it is "a disgrace to Socialism." That's all true. But it is not the whole truth. What you correctly term "the Vorwaerts bunch" are essentially light-weights—feathers blown hither and thither by any gust of wind. Such people are weaklings. Weakness causes men to shrink from standing alone, and to be anxious for a crowd. Now, whatever promises to be generally attractive captures these people. Any sentimentality carries them off their base. Consequently, there is no use bothering with them. They are no material to build with. They always land into the ditch.

H. L. B., PORTLAND, ORE.—No "honorable workingman" slugs another workingman with whom he disagrees in political and economic theories as Heslewood, Jones and St. John slugged delegate Francis at the I. W. W. headquarters, at the time of the last I.W.W. convention. No honorable workingman, or woman, stands by and approves such conduct as was done in Chicago by Mrs. Elizabeth Flynn-Jones and others who are now engaged in the Spokane so-called "Free Speech Fight." No workingman of "principle and intelligence" will fight principles, to which he may rightly or wrongly object, by suppressing the literature of such principles and thereby prevent his followers from hearing "the other side," as was done two years ago by the Spokane so-called I. W. W. Local when it placed The People upon its Papal "index expurgatorius" so as to educate its members upon how to capture the I. W. W. convention and turn it into an Anarchist affair. No work-

(Continued on page 6.)

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

CANADIAN S. L. P., Philip Courtenay, National Secretary, 144 Duchess avenue, London, Ont.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., the Party's Literary Agency, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

NOTICE—For technical reasons no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 6 p. m.

NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A regular meeting of the New York State Executive Committee, Socialist Labor Party, was held at No. 28 City Hall Place, Friday, December 17th, with William A. Walters in the chair, besides whom there were present, Kuhn, Grieb, Donohue, Hiltner and Moonelis. Absent, Wilson, Johnson and Scheuerer.

Minutes of the previous meeting adopted as read.

Secretary reported he had written Monroe Fuller, Sherburn, N. Y., complying with the request for leaflets and advising him regarding other matters; sent circular letter to all Sections in regard to semi-annual financial reports; received letter from O. Beldner, Organizer Jamestown, advising place and regular date of meeting and thereupon sent notice to all members of that Section to attend their next meeting; received return vote for N. E. C. member, from Section Rensselaer Co. Report received and actions of Secretary endorsed. Action; Grieb elected to assist Secretary in tabulating vote for N. E. C. member, and after result is ascertained, Secretary was empowered to issue credentials to elected member.

Kuhn and Grieg elected a committee to devise ways and means to provide campaign funds for State Election of 1910 and report back to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8.20 p. m., to meet again Friday, January 7, 1910, 7 p. m., at which time N. E. C. member will report.

Edmund Moonelis,
Secretary.

MINNESOTA S. E. C.

The Minnesota S. E. C., S. L. P., met at 1938 University avenue, St. Paul, December 4th. Reil chairman. Present: Cikanek, Carstensen, Henion, Herbert Johnson, State Secretary. Absent: Olsen and Jensen.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Correspondence:—From G. H. Campbell, Winona, Minn., with pledge. From Samuel Johnson, St. Paul, Minn., with pledge. From Section St. Paul, containing nomination for candidate for N. E. C. member. From Section Minneapolis containing nomination of candidate for N. E. C. member. From Section Minneapolis regarding tour of Comrade Katz. From C. W. Brandborg, Henning, Minn., with nomination for candidate for N. E. C. member and reply to correspondence. All communications ordered filed except that from Section Minneapolis, which was referred to new business.

Bills, $1.40 ordered paid.

Report of committee on Party Press accepted and commitee instructed to continue working.

State Secretary's report accepted.

Regarding communication from Section Minneapolis as to tour of Comrade Katz, the S. E. C. decided to wait for more information from N. E. C.

Received from Section Minneapolis $2.40 for due stamps; and from Section St. Paul $3 for due stamps; Expenses, $1.40; Balance on hand, $21.80.

Meeting adjourned.

William E. McCue,
Recording Secretary.

DAILY PEOPLE XMAS BOX.

Thos. P. Landee, Eureka, Cal.	2.00
J. S. Hertzbrun, San Diego, Cal.	.50
W. Suessbrich, Rockville, Conn.	1.00
J. Mann, Chicago, Ill.	.75
S. L. P. Section, Boston, Mass.	4.00
J. Sweeney, Roxbury, Mass.	1.00
John Lidberg, Minneapolis, Minn.	1.00
Gust Lidberg, Minneap'lis, Minn.	1.00
Dr. Anna Reinstein, Buffio, N.Y.	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Touroff, N. Y.....	5.00
A. Orange, New York	.50
S. L. P. Section, Richmond, Va.	3.00
M. Hanson, Los Angeles, Cal....	$ 2.00
Chas. Singer, Los Angeles, Cal. ..	1.00
A. Demuth, Los Angeles, Cal.	1.00
John Easton, Los Angeles, Cal..	1.00
M. Peterson, Henning, Minn.	1.00
S. L. P. Section, St. Paul, Minn.	3.00
John Sweeney, Hoboken, N. J...	1.00
J. Reese, Plainfield, N. J.	2.00
Total	$41.75
Previously acknowledged	15.50
Grand total	$57.25

OPERATING FUND.

L. D. Bechtel, Los Angeles, Cal.	1.00
O. W. Sewall, Los Angeles, Cal.	.50
M. Engel, San Francisco, Cal.	2.50
J. D. DeShazer, Durango, Cal.	.50
A. Stenger, So. Norwalk, Ct.	1.50
A. Clayman, Buffalo, N. Y. ..	.25
B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y.	1.00
H. Harris, New York, N. Y.	7.00
S. Thompson, New York ...	2.00
T. Tomlinson, Phila., Pa.....	.50
H.D. McTier, Blacksburg, Va.	2.00
F. G. Maresch, Bellingham, Wash.	1.50
Total	20.25
Previously acknowledged .	5,691.17
Grand total	$5,711.42

PHILA. PROPAGANDA.

Propaganda meetings under the auspices of the Socialist Labor Party of Philadelphia are held in Morning Star Hall, N. E. corner Ninth and Callowhill streets (second floor).

The next meeting will be on SUNDAY afternoon, December 26, at 2.30 o'clock. E. J. Higgins will speak on "Revolutionary Socialism vs. Pure and Simple Socialism." Everybody welcome. Free discussion.

SECTION COOK COUNTY, ILL.

A General Party meeting of Section Cook County, S. L. P., Ill., will be held Sunday, Dec. 26, 2:30 p. m., at our new Headquarters, 1741 W. Division street, near Wood street, Chicago, to transact the following order of business: Report of Officers, election of all officers; advisability of participating in the spring elections; Ways and means of raising funds to employ an Organizer, and such other business as may come before the meeting. All members are urged to attend.

J. Bobinsky, Org.

SMOKER ON CHRISTMAS.

The Third, Sixth and Tenth Assembly Districts, S. L. P., have arranged for a Smoker to be held at their club rooms, 528 East Sixth street, on SATURDAY evening, December 25. Good talent has been engaged, including Gypsy music, and German and English comedians. The S. L. P. Singing Society will render several selections.

A line of first class smokes, cigars and tobacco, will be provided free. Admission will be ten cents. All who would spend a pleasant evening are invited to come.

SKOAL! ST. PAULITES.

You and your friends are cordially invited to attend the 17th annual Christmas and New Year's entertainment and ball given by Section St. Paul, Socialist Labor Party, at Federation Hall, 309 Wabasha street, on SATURDAY, January 1st, 1910.

Entertainment starts at 3 o'clock p. m. Admission 35 cents per couple (sold by members). At the door 50c. Presents for the children. Dancing in order after supper.

SECTION NEW YORK COUNTY LECTURES.

The County Executive Committee of Section New York County, S. L. P., is pleased to announce that it has well in hand the arrangements for the Winter course of weekly lectures for the season of 1910.

Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks place (East Eighth street) near Third avenue, Manhattan, has been engaged for that purpose and the lectures, the same as last year, will be held every Wednesday evening beginning with Wednesday, January 12th, 1910, upon which occasion Boris Reinstein of Buffalo, N. Y., will lecture on "Industrial Unionism or Anarcho-Syndicalism, Which?" A week later on Wednesday evening, January 19th, Daniel De Leon will lecture on "Lessons of the Campaign." This will be followed on Wednesday evening, January 26, with a lecture by Charles J. Mercer of Bridgeport, Connecticut, who will lecture on "After the Trusts, What"

These lectures will be free to all and an intellectual treat is in store for all who will attend.

Lectures will begin promptly at 8 p. m. Questions pertaining to the subjects are welcome and will be answered by the lecturer.

Cards announcing these lectures are now in the hands of the printer, and as soon as ready wil be announced. Subdivisions of the Section will be expected to secure a supply of these cards for distribution in their respective localities.

N. Y. County Executive Committee, S. L. P.

AGE OF REASON.

By Thomas Paine.

The book that for a hundred years the preachers have been vainly trying to answer.

Cloth, Price 50 Cents.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
28 CITY HALL PLACE,
NEW YORK.

REMINDERS

To People Readers and Those Active In the Party's Work.

A number of subscriptions are due to be renewed by the end of this month. In order not to miss any copies, take a look at the expiration date on the address label, and if your sub is about to expire send in your renewal promptly. While sending in your own, see if you cannot, at the same time, send along a new sub.

We must again notify our friends that to make sure that money reaches us they should send remittances by Post Office, or Express, Money Order, or by registered letter.

Endeavor to get street and house number for all subscriptions in places where there is delivery by carrier. General delivery, that is, paper to be called for at post office, is not the most satisfactory in cities and large towns.

If you haven't sent in a sub this year there is still time in which to get one. Wind up the year with your duty done by the movement. Help extend the Party's influence by building up the circulation of the Party's press.

Last week those sending two or more subs were heard from as follows:

K. Bauer, Felton, Cal.	2
L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal. ..	2
Mrs. H. J. Schade, Los Angeles, Cal.	5
A. Gillhaus, San Francisco, Cal.	2
W. J. Berns, San Francisco, Cal. ..	2
F. Knotek, Hartford, Conn.	7
H. Finken, Mystic, Conn.	2
C. E. Warner, New Haven, Conn. ..	2
J. Mann, Chicago, Ill.	3
H. Palm, Rockford, Ill.	2
L. Platt, Attleboro, Mass.	2
F. Bohmbach, Boston, Mass.	2
W. E. McCue, St. Paul, Minn.	2
R. Palmer, Paterson, N. J.	3
B. Reinstein, Buffalo, N. Y.	3
E. Hauk, Buffalo, N. Y.	2
A. L. Zimmerman, New York	2
C. Vonderleith, New York	3
C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y.	3
C. Jordan, Troy, N. Y.	2
J. H. T. Juergens, Canton, O.	4
W. Weber, Cleveland, O.	3
E. J. Higgins, Philadelphia, Pa. ..	3
G. M. Sterry, Providence, R. I. ..	3
C. Pierson, Houston, Texas	24
D. L. Munro, Portsmouth, Va.	3
H. Hoffman, Lynden, Wash.	2
L. Olsson, Tacoma, Wash.	3
J. McCall, Tacoma, Wash.	2
J. W. Pearce, St. Thomas, Ont.	2

Prepaid Cards sold: Tacoma, Wash., $5.00; Rockville, Conn., $5.00; New Bedford, Mass., $2.00.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

We have not had anything like the Xmas book orders that we expected. There is still time, however, for nearby friends to get in orders, and those who make their presents at New Year's have ample time. Don't forget the Sue books as Xmas presents. "The Silver Cross" is an excellent volume to present singly. Then there is "Woman Under Socialism," which makes a splendid gift book.

ATTENTION, LYNN, MASS.!

To S. L. P. Members and Sympathizers in Lynn and Vicinity:

The Lynn Scandinavian Socialist Club will hold its first Grand Fair on December 31, at 8 p. m., and January 1, at 6 p. m., in Knights of Pythias Hall, corner of Market Square and Elm street W., Lynn, Mass. The fair is to be held for the benefit of "Arbetaren," Swedish organ of the S. L. P. Come help us make it a success.

Oscar F. Sjoberg, Secy.

ST. LOUIS SOCIALISTS!

A Grand Entertainment and Dance will be given by Section St. Louis, Socialist Labor Party, on New Year's Eve., Friday, Dec. 31, at the Headquarters, 1717 S. Broadway, St. Louis. The entertainment will open with a one act Drama in German, "Sein Jubeleum." After the play there will be dancing. Admission 15 cents.

Friends and sympathizers are cordially invited.

The Committee.

OFFICERS OF SECTION DENVER.

The following officers and committees were elected at regular meeting of Section Denver, S. L. P., on December 5, for the six months beginning January 1st, 1910: Organizer, Martin Hurwitz; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Al. Wernet; Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Geo. Anderson; Agent of Party Organs, Al. Wernet; Literary Agent, Carl Demms; Grievance Committee, Ben. Hurwitz, Al. Wernet; Auditing Committee, Ben. Hurwitz, J. W. Hawkins and Otto Schwitzgebel.

RAILROADERS READY

75,000 BROTHERHOOD OF TRAINMEN WILL ASK FOR INCREASE.

Demands Range from 5 to 40 Per Cent. Raise—Formal Notice Will Be Served on Railroad Companies on January 3—Men Practically Unanimous in Move.

Pittsburgh, December 20.—Trainmen to the number of 75,000, employed on about seventy-five railroads east of the Mississippi River, were ready to-day, through officers of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, with headquarters at Cleveland, O., to formally notify the various divisions and railroads affected that a demand for an increase in wages amounting to from 5 per cent. to 40 per cent. will be made on January 3. The agreement between the railroads and trainmen necessitates a notice before any demand can be presented. The trainmen, it is said, will wait until January 20 for an answer from the railroads.

Men a Unit.

According to W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, who was in this city yesterday attending the initiation of a number of men into the local here, the chief demand to be made is that the wages of conductors and their crews be standardized, which will mean increase for the various branches of the trainmen of from 5 to 40 per cent. A strike is not yet contemplated, Lee said, but he reiterated that the trainmen will insist that their demands be granted.

Lee said the result of the recent referendum vote of the Eastern Association of the Brotherhood was canvassed at a meeting of the executive committee in Chicago on Saturday, and that the canvass showed that the men were almost unanimously in favor of presenting the demands and holding out for them until granted.

In answer to a question concerning the statement credited to some railroad men that in order to raise the men's wages, freight rates would have to be advanced, Lee is said to have remarked that the railroads have been looking for some excuse to advance freight rates; but, irrespective of such an advance, the men must have the pay they earned, even if the companies had to stop paying dividends.

There are 125,000 trainmen employed on the roads affected.

Notice of Trainmen in New England.

Boston, December 20.—The officers of the Boston and Maine and New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroads will be officially notified to-day by representatives of the Conductors' and Train men's Organizations of a desire for a revision of the existing wage scale and working agreement calling in general for a ten-hour work day and a 10 per cent. increase in wages. The notice will be the official thirty days' notice required in the agreements with the railroads.

CHICAGO LETTISH CELEBRATION.

The Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, Section Chicago, will give a Dramatic Entertainment at Pulaski Hall, 1717 So. Ashland avenue near Eighteenth street, on December 25, at 8.15 p. m. On the program is: "The Secrets of the Telephone," a vaudeville in 3 acts. There will be singing, a Christmas tree, and dancing also. Music by the Lettish musicians' band. Tickets 35 cents. Come and have a good time!

For the Committee,
J. Bambel.

HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

All persons desiring to attach themselves to the Socialist Labor Party, either by the formation of a local organization known as a "Section," or by joining as members at large, may proceed as follows:

1. Seven or more persons may form a "Section," provided they subscribe to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and belong to no other political party.

2. Isolated persons, unable to find six others to join with them in organizing a "Section," but desiring to become members, may do so by becoming members-at-large by signing an application card, subscribing thereon to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and answering other questions on said application card.

For application blanks to be used in the formation of "Sections" and for application cards for the use of individual members as well as all other information apply to the undersigned.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary,
28 City Hall Place, New York City.

"The People" is the paper that you want. Straight and Truthful.

CANADIANS TAKE NOTICE!

All Canadian readers of the Daily and Weekly People are urgently requested to correspond with the National Secretary of the Socialist Labor Party of Canada, Philip Courtenay, 144 Duchess avenue, London, Ont., with the object in view of spreading correct propaganda literature of our Party, and organizing active working sections in your locality. Wake up! Organize! Educate! if you want Socialism

LETTER BOX.

(Continued from page 5.)

ingman of principle and intelligence will applaud speeches that justify fraud and theft as the one delivered by Mrs. Elizabeth Flynn-Jones at the Chicago convention, and as have been frequently suggested by the Spokane "Industrial Worker." The principles, honor and intelligence of such men and women are not above and probably are below, the honor, principle and intelligence of the worst A. F. of L. rowdy. If you do not yet know all this, you will have to learn it. At any rate, and in all kindness, the Movement will not wait until you have reached that minimum of information, and be in the meantime broken up.

E. J. H., PHILA., PA.—Clippings without the name of the paper and the date of publication are useless.

G. H., PHILA., PA.—The theory of the Single Tax is that if all taxes are abolished and tax is levied singly on land values, then involuntary poverty would be no more. The tax is supposed to have the effect of making impossible the holding of land from use. The workers are supposed to have an equal chance with anybody to occupy land. The error is obvious. What would have been the outcome if society had started with the Single Tax it is useless to speculate upon. To-day, when we have rich capitalists and pauper workers there can be no doubt of what the issue would be. The workers could not reach (operate) the land for lack of capital. To-day the capitalist shares the hide of labor with the landlord. Under the Single Tax the capitalist would have the whole hide. If one of two wolves that prey upon a sheepfold is killed the surviving wolf would have all the sheep. According to Single Tax philosophy the surviving wolf will remain content with what he had before and leave the other sheep to themselves.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—The particulars are asked for of how Carnegie came into possession of the rolling mill invented by John Brislin. Who can give the information?

SECTION TACOMA, WASH.—This office declines to take the responsibility of publishing a protest of that nature. If you insist upon the publication you will have to get an order from the N. E. C. That body is about to meet—next January 2. Communicate with it through the N. E. C. member for your own State.

R. F. S., OGDEN, UTAH—The article will appear in next week's issue.

S. A., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.; E. J. K., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.; A. L., NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y.; C. S. I., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.; A. R., DETROIT, MICH.; F. C. R., GLEN RIDGE, N. J.; C. B., COLUMBUS, O.; H. J. S., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; L. C. H., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.—Matter received.

LADIES TAILORS, ATTENTION.

STAY AWAY FROM DETROIT, MICH. STRIKE ON TO STOP VICTIMIZING OF MEMBERS.

Ladies' Tailors, Branch 1 of Clothing Workers' Industrial Union, No. 2, I. W. W., Detroit, Mich.

Grand Entertainment & Ball

Given by JOINT SECTIONS
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
— Of —
San Francisco, California
— At —
SARATOGA HALL, 225 Valencia Street.
— On —
New Years' Eve., Friday, December 31, 1909
ALL NIGHT BALL To Commence at 8 P. M.
GENERAL ADMISSION : : : : : : : : : 25 Cents.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, 49 Dubose avenue.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1808 Elm street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Headquarters of Section Portland, Oregon, S. L. P., and Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation, 268 Stark street, Room 32.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets first and third Sunday of the month at 3 p. m., at Headquarters, 1366 Ontario street, near St. Clair avenue.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters, 815 Hamilton street.

Section Hartford, Conn., meets every second Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m., at Headquarters, 34 Elm street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer street, room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P. John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton ave., Jersey City; Fred Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly st., Jersey City, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party meets every first and third Friday, 8 p. m., at Friedman's Hall, Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women invited.

Headquarters Section Seattle, Sullivan Building, 712 First avenue, Room 207. P. O. Box 1854. Propaganda meetings every Sunday, 8 p. m., Maccabee Hall, corner 4th and Pine streets.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Herbert Johnson, 475 Como avenue, St. Paul, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

Section Denver meets the first Sunday afternoon of each month, at Hall 401, Club Building, 1731 Arapahoe street. People readers invited. Agent of Party organs, Al. Wernet, Hotel Carlton, 15th and Glenarm streets.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE

AN ADDRESS delivered by DANIEL DE LEON, *under the auspices of the Socialist Women of Greater New York.*

The author presents the subject historically, showing that Woman's Suffrage is but a part of the Suffrage Question, which in turn is but a feature of Class Rule—the Modern Social Question.

The Topic Groupings Are

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE
THE CLASS STRUGGLE
THE SUFFRAGE
ARGUMENTS OF ANTIS
ARGUMENTS OF PROS
CONCLUSIONS

Paper, 48 Pages. Price 10 Cents.
12 Copies, $1.00.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
28 City Hall Place., New York.

Something good for our German reading comrades and friends. Fiction but more than fiction.

Two dramas from proletarian life by Richard Koeppel.

"EIN VERLORENER"
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